



September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year - the Year 6 team are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you this year. We hope you had a restful summer break and your children are ready for a busy year ahead. Year 6 is a fantastic time; it is full of hard work and good fun. Our priority for the autumn term is to ensure Year 6 are happy and feel settled and begin the academic year feeling motivated for their new learning.

As the year progresses, you may notice changes to systems and procedures to previous year groups as we prepare children for secondary school. In Year 6, we encourage independent research that may be conducted using the internet. As part of our work on online safety, we ask that you support us by monitoring the websites that your child is using at home – thank you.

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Partridge is our Year 6 Teaching Assistant and we also welcome Miss Burgon to Trent who will be completing her School-centred Initial Teacher Training with us.

We are looking forward to working with you and your children, and we know that we will have a brilliant year together. At Trent, we recognise that your child's success is often attributed to tremendous commitment from the whole family team, so thank you in advance for your support. This letter is for your information, outlining the learning taking place in Year 6 this term.

Throughout the autumn term, we will be covering the following:

Subject	Learning taking place at school	Links to previous learning to use as discussion points at home	Additional ideas to support your child at home
Relationships and Health Education (RHE) – previously called PSHE	<p>During the autumn term, we will focus on the unit 'Health and Well-being: Moving On' to support children in their return to school (after the summer holiday and a disrupted year last year) and supporting them in making a smooth transition into Year 6.</p> <p>Through RHE sessions, children will recognise their individuality and</p>	Previous PSHE units covered throughout your child's time at Trent particularly 'self-respect and personal goals' (Year 5).	We really encourage talking to your child about how they are feeling about returning to school after the summer break and a disrupted year last year, to support them in settling in. Encourage your child to reflect and acknowledge their individual strengths and discuss what they would like to achieve

	<p>personal qualities, strengths and achievements, and how these contribute to a sense of self-worth and mental health and well-being.</p> <p>In addition, Year 6 will learn about taking on personal responsibilities, managing setbacks and reframing unhelpful thinking. We discuss change, including transitions (between year groups, and later in the year, between schools) as well as loss and separation (connected to their time away from, and the return, to school).</p>		<p>throughout their final year at Trent.</p>
<p>Project: 'Battle of Barnet' and 'WWII'</p> <p>(history, geography, art and design, computing, design and technology)</p>	<p>To begin the year, we will complete a local history study of the Battle of Barnet. Our 'Big Question' for this project is 'What happened in Barnet in 1471?'</p> <p>We will then move on to our next project for the term: WWII. Our 'Big Questions' for this project are 'What was life like during World War 2? and 'Why was winning the Battle of Britain in 1940 so important?'</p> <p>Children will learn about how and when WWII began, the life of children during the war and daily life for people who were at home and those who were fighting. We will also be looking in detail at The Blitz and how people's lives changed during this period and the 'Dig for Victory' campaign.</p> <p>In art, we will learn about propaganda and children will create their own posters, as well as study artwork by LS Lowry and use this as inspiration for their own Blitz pieces.</p> <p>In DT, children will make a product from an old item of clothing or resources we can 'find' to illustrate and help them gain an understanding of the 'Make Do and Mend' campaign.</p> <p>In geography, children will develop their map reading skills to answer a range of questions; use maps, aerial</p>	<p>*Year 1 – Bright lights, Big city (London city)</p> <p>*Year 2 – Street Detectives (local area)</p> <p>*Year 4 – I am Warrior! (invasion)</p> <p>*Year 5 – Off with her head! (parliament)</p> <p>*Year 5 – Allotment (can link to the 'Dig for Victory' campaign)</p> <p>Please discuss online safety with your children.</p>	<p>Discuss lessons with your child, ask them questions and encourage personal research.</p> <p>Useful websites:</p> <p>WWII information: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-world-war-two/zjnyscw</p> <p>Online safety advice and support for parents and children: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/</p>

	<p>photographs, plans and e-resources to describe what a locality might be like; and use Ordnance Survey symbols and 6 figure grid references, within the context of our WWII topic.</p> <p>In computing, we will use Chatterpix to bring WWII poetry to life and use computing when creating our propaganda posters. We will complete an 'Introduction to Code Cracking' unit and learn about emailing and blogging. We will also be revising online safety.</p> <p>I am delighted to inform you that we have been chosen to take part in the artsdepot Schools Exhibition Project with Studio Polpo and Architype. During the autumn term, Year 6 will be working with a professional artist to create a piece of artwork that will be displayed in an exhibition at the artsdepot which we will go to visit. I will provide you with further information about the project soon.</p>		
English	<p>Linked to our WWII learning, we will be exploring a range of quality texts to inspire our writing including 'Letters from a Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll and 'Friend or Foe' by Michael Morpurgo. We will also study a range of war poetry.</p> <p>These class books will inspire our writing across a range of genres including letters, diary entries, newspaper reports, poetry and narratives.</p> <p>SPaG will be taught daily to support writing and children will be given a weekly spelling check linked to the spellings set in weekly homework. Throughout the autumn term, we will cover using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, whose, that or with an implied (or omitted) relative pronoun; using modal verbs to indicate degrees of possibility; using adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility (perhaps, surely); using</p>	Units of work studied in Year 5 including the range of writing genres covered and new SPaG features.	<p>Discuss the current topic with your child, ask them what their targets are and how they can improve their writing. Please encourage the use of a dictionary and thesaurus at home, and to take extra care with presentation when completing homework activities.</p> <p>Children will bring home a Year 6 levelled book and should be encouraged to read every day and be able to answer questions about what they have read, as well as give their opinions about the text. Please ask your children a range of questions about</p>

	<p>brackets, dashes, or commas to indicate parenthesis; using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely; using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause; and using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing.</p> <p>Guided reading will be taught daily in whole-class and small focus group sessions.</p> <p>A class book will be shared at the end of each day for children to enjoy listening to and discussing.</p>		<p>what they have read to help develop their understanding. A list of example questions can be found on the 'Book Talk' page in your child's reading journal to help support you when reading with your child. Please sign your child's reading journal on a daily basis so we can see that your child has been reading at home. Reading Journals will be checked and signed in school every day. If your child does not read for 2 nights in a row they must miss 5 minutes of their playtime to read.</p> <p>Useful websites:</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f</p> <p>https://www.literacyshed.com/</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>We will follow the National Curriculum objectives in preparation for SATs in May 2022, with great emphasis on reasoning skills.</p> <p>Throughout the autumn term, we will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number: 'place value' and 'addition, subtraction, multiplication and division' • Fractions • Geometry: position and direction • Reasoning problems <p>During the term, Early Morning Work will consist of maths activities. There will also be opportunities to tackle</p>	<p>Year 6 maths builds upon, and consolidates, units of work that have been covered each year throughout your child's time at Trent, in particular formal methods of the four operations and fraction work studied in Year 5.</p>	<p>Practice the 2 - 12 times tables with your child to help them learn these facts and recall them quickly.</p> <p>Every week, your child will be set a piece of homework linked to the maths unit we have covered in class.</p> <p>Useful websites:</p> <p>https://nrich.maths.org/</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8</p>

	SATs-style worded questions on a daily basis.		26n39 https://uk.ixl.com/
Science	<p>During autumn term 1, our topic is 'Electricity.'</p> <p>The science 'Big Question' is 'Can we vary the effects of electricity?'</p> <p>Children will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit • compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches • use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. <p>During autumn term 2, our topic is 'Animals including humans.'</p> <p>The science 'Big Question' is 'How do our choices affect how our bodies work?'</p> <p>Children will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood • recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function • describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans. 	<p>*Year 4 – electricity (circuits and switches)</p> <p>*Year 5 – electrical conductivity</p>	<p>Discuss the topic at home and ask questions about what they have learnt. Encourage your child to read non-fiction books related to the topic and share new concepts.</p> <p>Useful websites: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q</p>
Religious Education	During the autumn term, Year 6 will cover two RE units.	Previous Christianity units explored throughout your child's	You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics and

	<p>During autumn term 1, the 'Big Question' Year 6 will explore is 'How has the Christian message survived for over 2000 years?'</p> <p>In autumn term 2, the 'Big Questions' are 'Should every Christian go on a pilgrimage?' and 'How would Christians advertise Christmas and what does Christmas mean today?'</p>	<p>time at Trent and themes discussed in daily Collective Worship.</p>	<p>encourage additional personal research.</p>
PE	<p>Children will have two weekly PE sessions taught by Non Stop Action. The lessons are on Mondays and Fridays. During the autumn term, children will develop their skills in netball, floor gymnastics, football and gymnastics with apparatus.</p>	<p>Previous dance skills covered in Year 5 and team work.</p>	<p>Please support your child in remembering the days that they have PE and need to wear their PE kits to school.</p>
Music	<p>Year 6 will have weekly music lessons throughout the autumn term taught by Mrs Ordon. They will learn some songs made popular during WWII. Additionally, pupils will learn about the history and key features of the blues, and perform C Jam Blues as a class. They will use this knowledge to write lyrics for, and perform, a Blues song. Pupils will use a range of instruments including keyboards and ukuleles.</p> <p>In autumn term 2, pupils will read the music for Winter Wonderland and perform it using a range of instruments including ukuleles, glockenspiels, keyboards and iPads.</p>		<p>You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics and encourage additional personal research or practice.</p>
French	<p>Ms Kenealy will teach a weekly French lesson during the autumn term where children will learn a range of French vocabulary and grammar through practical activities, games and role play.</p>	<p>Builds upon language and grammar taught in Year 5.</p>	<p>You can support your child by discussing lessons, new vocabulary and topics, and encourage additional personal research or practice.</p> <p>Useful website:</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty</p>

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PE

Year 6 will have PE on Mondays and Fridays. Children need to wear full Trent PE kit to school on these days. Please ensure your child wears a pair of plain coloured trainers.

Homework

Homework will be set on Google Classroom on Fridays and will usually consist of:

- *A piece of maths
- *A piece of English
- *Spellings
- * A piece of science or project learning

As the year progresses, the amount of homework will increase to help support SATs revision and prepare children for secondary school. Homework is due in on a Wednesday. Please encourage your child to get into the routine of 'handing in' their homework on time (by ensuring they click the 'hand in' button) as this will help prepare them for Year 7. At times, 'talk homework' will be set so that children can discuss their ideas before completing a piece of 'big writing'. If your child needs any help regarding their homework, they must come and see a member of the Year 6 team before the Wednesday deadline so we can support them.

Reading

The expectations for speed and accuracy in reading in Year 6 increase dramatically from Year 5 so please make sure your child reads every night. Your child will have a reading record journal which should be signed each day by an adult at home. These will be checked daily and signed by a member of staff to acknowledge your child's commitment to their reading. There are some great question prompts on the 'Book Talk' page in your child's reading journal to help support you when reading with your child at home.

Equipment

Thank you to all who have purchased the school pencil case containing the equipment your child will need for this year. The children have already shown responsibility in looking after their own equipment, however if items need replacing, we would be grateful if you could support us in this. The items your child will need are: a clear pencil case, a pencil, a blue non-erasable writing pen (no biros please), a ruler, a protractor, a sharpener, a glue stick, a purple pen, whiteboard pen and whiteboard eraser.

Due to the volume of work completed in Year 6, children do need items in their pencil case replacing regularly. Please check with your child on a regular basis if they need any new items. We recommend that your child always has two pens and pencils in their pencil case.

If you wish to provide your child with earphones to keep in their tray to use when using the iPads then please feel free to do so. Please note that your child is responsible for their earphones.

Please provide your child with a named water bottle every day and a healthy fruit snack to eat during morning break time.

Please provide your child with an old shirt (with their name on it) in a named bag that they can wear when completing art activities.

We would be very grateful if you could please provide your child with a pair of trainers to wear at morning break and lunch time when the field is muddy. Please ensure these are named and put in a carrier bag which can be left at school if you wish.

Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy has been clearly explained to all the children across the school. They understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and are responding positively. In Year 6, we will be encouraging and recognising positive behaviour by rewarding children who do well in a variety of ways.

Dates for your diary

**Battle of Barnet talk in school led by the Barnet Museum: Monday 20th September 2021*

If you would like to give permission for your child to leave the school site by themselves at the end of the day, walk home alone or to be collected by another adult, please kindly email me via the school office, clearly stating what you are giving permission for and for which days – thank you.

The Year 6 team look forward to working with you during the terms ahead and we know it will be a brilliant year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office if you have any questions.

With Best Wishes,

Miss Wheeler (Class Teacher) and the Year 6 team