



# QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents,

## Welcome to Year Six

I am writing to introduce the Year six team and explain what we are going to be teaching in Year six up to Christmas.

### Meet the team

Mrs Bridges - Class teacher  
Miss Bering- Teaching Assistant  
Mrs Hale- Teaching Assistant (Mornings)  
Mrs Thorpe- High Level Teaching Assistant (Monday afternoons)

### Year Six Autumn curriculum-“Journey To The Centre Of The Rainforest”

#### English

We will be covering a range of genres starting with narrative (story writing). While working on this, we will be trying out different ways of starting sentences encouraging the children to use and choose exciting vocabulary and developing how we write a setting and introduce characters. After narrative, we will be looking at persuasive writing-this is when we begin to work on a more formal style of writing. In year six we try to offer as many opportunities for meaningful and high quality writing as we can-this will include in RE, Science and topic work. Writing this year will be a big focus and there will be lots of it! Guided reading will involve Narrative and persuasive writing so that the reading will stimulate the writing. Children in year six are still expected to read at home and it would be great if you could join the library so that your child has access to a wide range of free books! The children will have Grammar lessons each week as well as being encouraged to apply what they are learning in their reading and writing. In spelling, the children will have “Wow” words, as they did last year and a spelling lesson, where children will get a chance to investigate and explore spelling patterns.

#### Mathematics

This term we will be focussing on fluency of multiplication and division facts up to 12x and using these known facts to solve more challenging multiplication and division questions. We will also be working on understanding larger numbers (up to 6 figures) and place value (including decimal numbers). There will be lots of opportunities to practice our arithmetic skills at this time, which will consist of consolidation of formal methods for subtraction and addition and looking at different methods to solve larger multiplication and division calculations. We will also be revising key fraction objectives ensuring that we know the key vocabulary for working with fractions and refining our methods for solving questions using fractions.

#### Science

In year six we still have plenty of practical work but we begin to develop the children’s ability to record their investigations and reasoning. The topics until Christmas include adaptation, living things and their habitats and evolution and inheritance. The children will find out more about fossils and the ideas of Charles Darwin and Mary Anning.

#### Computing (IT)

We will have a computing lesson once week but will also be using computers to support our topic work. We will start by looking at keeping safe on the internet and how to use social media sites correctly as the children grow and mature.

May we take this opportunity to remind parents that the age restriction for WhatsApp is **16 years old**, and Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram and YouTube require account holders to be **13 years old**, therefore your child should not have any of these accounts.

#### Design & Technology (DT)

Towards Christmas we will be putting our design and sewing skills to the test as we make a tree decoration out of felt.
<b>Art</b>
Our art up to Christmas has a rainforest theme about it! We will investigate the artist Henri Rousseau and look at how art can look in 3D form. We will be talking about how we use materials to create foregrounds and backgrounds to tell a story.
<b>Music</b>
Also linked to our rainforest topic, we will be looking at creating a whole class composition to tell a story set in the rainforest. We will be using our imaginations to use musical instruments and creating some sounds of our own, as well as using a sound map to help order the music.
<b>Religious Education (RE)</b>
The children will build on their knowledge from Year Five and will be investigating the different ways that Harvest is celebrated and Fair Trade. They will be looking at the way that Christians celebrate Christmas and using the Bible to investigate the events of the first Christmas.
<b>Physical Education (PE)</b>
PE will be on a Monday and Thursday afternoon and we are outside for <b>both</b> of these sessions. We will be looking at refining our skills in invasion games. We will be learning how to play both football and tag rugby as well as continuing with our weekly mile on a Friday.
<b>Geography</b>
Our topic "The Rainforest" this term is mainly based on Geographical skills. We find out where they are, what they are and what kind of plants and animals are living in them. We also look at trees in this country to contrast how plants adapt to their habitats.
<b>Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)</b>
As part of our PSHE we will be looking at risks and what is meant by the term and how we as humans deal with different types of risk. As part of PSHE we will also be making a visit to the Horton for "IMPS." More details to follow. We will also be doing some work on feelings-how we express ourselves, words that we use and how feelings can affect us and other people.
<b>Modern Foreign Language</b>
We will be having conversations and including topics such as family, food and drink, pets and colours in French.

### **What homework to expect and when**

Please make sure that your child is reading **every night** for at least 15 minutes. If your child is a confident reader please still ask them about what they are reading, about the characters or the plot. Make sure your child reads some non-fiction too-a magazine, the football pages, an information book linked with the topic. Homework will be given on a **Friday** and is expected back the following **Friday** ready for the class to share. Homework is marked as a class to help children reflect on their learning out of class, but will always be acknowledged by the teacher with extra learning always being rewarded.

**If your child attends a Booster group they may have extra homework-the expectation is that this will be done when it is set please.**

If your child has any questions about homework we encourage **them** to come back and ask us for help-this helps them in year seven to have the confidence to ask questions as they need to. I will be talking to them about this in the first few weeks.

### **Ways you can help your child**

- Still ask them what their homework is on a Friday and help them practice any spellings they have.
- Please help with homework-don't feel that because they are in year six that you can't!
- Make sure that they are still reading every night
- Talk to them about their day-often in year six, children can begin to stop chatting about their day-try and keep this going...
- Please use the Blog and the year six website page for support and information

Please feel free to come and ask questions of the staff in year six if you need to. We would ask that you avoid the mornings as this is a busy time and we need to start lessons promptly at 8.40am. We like the children to begin their journey of independence-we ask that parents do not come into the classroom but leave the children to organise themselves.

**PE days both outdoor**

**Monday and Thursday-** White T shirt, navy shorts or joggers, navy sweatshirt, suitable trainers please

**Forthcoming trips**

Visit to the Horton Hospital (Free)

6PH Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 10.00-12.30

6AB Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 10.00-12.30

**Reminder**

Children in Year Six are still required to be accompanied to and from school by an adult. If your child is being collected by someone who is not on the emergency contact list, please ensure you let the class teacher know as soon as possible.

Finally please remember to visit our blog at <https://missbridgesqueensway.wordpress.com/>. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class.

I look forward to working in partnership with you all this year.

Best wishes

Mrs Bridges (Class Teacher)