



## Year 6 Spring Term News



Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 have a busy and exciting Spring Term ahead of them and I know, with your continued support, they will continue to make fantastic progress in their learning and achieve so much during their time in Year 6.

Our topic for this term will be Mayas. We will be learning about this through different areas of the curriculum. Here is an overview of our subject focuses for the term:

**PHSE:** Our PSHE/JIGSAW work this half-term will focus on 'Dreams and Goals.' This topic will allow for children to focus on their personal learning goals and think about their steps for success. They will also consider the different ways that they can make a positive difference in our world, both locally and across the globe. Next half term, we will focus on 'Healthy Me'. In this topic we will look at the effects of food, drugs and alcohol on the human body, and explore how we can keep ourselves and others safe, both physically and mentally.

**English:** Year 6 will be exploring a range of texts and genres throughout the term. We will begin with our first text 'Shackleton's Journey' where our focus is on using the subjunctive verb form and parenthesis through letter writing. We will then be moving on to narrative writing using a short film 'Alma' as our stimulus. After half term, we will be focussing on play scripts by looking at a variety of Shakespeare's plays. We will also be reading 'My Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow as our class reader and exploring different opportunities for reading, writing, speaking and listening. Spelling, grammar and punctuation will continue to be a significant focus in English lessons. The children will be applying their knowledge and skills through a variety of sentence types.

**Maths:** Throughout this term, following our maths scheme 'Maths No Problem', the children will develop their understanding of number, with a special focus on decimals, calculations, measures and word problems. We will experience this learning through various supported, group and independent activities. There will be a heavy focus on the children developing their fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills. Mental strategies including times tables, number bonds and using the inverse will be practiced. A child's mental ability and rapid recall of number facts are essential for their mathematical development and your continued support with this at home is greatly appreciated.

**Science:** In the first half term we will be covering 'Evolution and Inheritance' where we will study characteristics that we inherit from our parents and how the world has changed due to adaptation. We will be creating a presentation about how the Peppered Moth has adapted to their environment and will be sharing this with Year 5 and on Seesaw. In the second half of Spring, we will be exploring 'Living things and their habitats'. We are very lucky that the National Trust hold lots of trips in Jersey such as pond dipping, so we will be taking them up on the offer to see wildlife in their habitats on our own island.

**Physical Education:** The children will continue to have 2 hours of PE a week; this will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays. The children are very lucky to have a specialist trainer from Jersey Sport for both sessions. Children will develop the fundamental movement skills that are required to be successful in a range of sports. For 3 weeks after half term we have partnered up with Victoria College's Enrichment programme. Students from Victoria College will be running 3 PE sessions for the Year 6 children, I will confirm which day this will take place on closer to the time. Please ensure your child only wears PE kit on their correct PE days.

**Computing:** We will continue to develop our skills in Computing this term. The children will have focussed sessions on Online Safety, and we will be exploring Big Data. We will be looking at how data is collected, stored, sorted and used around the world. Children will be using a range of technology in other lessons to enhance their learning opportunities.

**History/Geography:** The children will be learning about the Mayas; the people in these times and key events which occurred. We will be looking at where in the world the Mayas lived and how this changed over time. Year 6 will also be looking at their religion, language, money systems, the clothing they wore and the battles that took place, including their demise.

**Art, Design and Technology:** We will be continuing to develop our skills this term by creating Maya masks using clay and creating their own Maya prints in Art.

**RE:** This term will be focussing on Christianity and Hinduism.

**French:** Mrs Taylor will be teaching the children French next half term. They will be working on the 'Salut Jersey' programme of work, which includes learning to speak about school, sports and our hobbies.

### **Home - Learning**

**Home reading** - Please ensure that your child is accessing our new 'Reading Plus' scheme. Year 6 children should be reading for 15-20 minutes per evening. I am aware some children love to read their own chosen book which is brilliant, therefore I am suggesting that Reading Plus be accessed a minimum of 3 times per week. In the next few weeks we will have a reading log book for each child to ensure there is communication between school and home about what they are reading. Please ensure you sign their reading log when they have read.

Log in details:

School code: rpgrandsva

Username: TomA (Capital letter for name and capital letter for surname initial)

Password: qwerty

A child continuing their reading development at home makes such a difference to their attitude towards reading and to their reading progression at school. It really is half the journey in a child becoming a confident and enthusiastic reader, therefore continuing to read and comment on your child's reading is very much appreciated. Thank you for your ongoing support at home.

**Maths Homework** - A Maths activity linked to current class learning will be set on Seesaw each Friday.

**Spellings** - Spellings are given every Monday to be practiced through the week and tested the following Monday. Spellings are taken from key statutory requirements as well as learning specific Year 6 spelling patterns.

**Trips** - We aim to go on a variety of trips to enhance our learning experiences. Before the trip, I will send out a letter with additional information, including times and dates.

As always please see me with any questions or queries. We look forward to working with you and your child to make this a fantastic final year at Grands Vaux.

Best wishes

Miss Dewhurst