

Year 6 – Keeping you up to date

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to inform you and keep you updated with our achievements from Term 1 and our plans for Term 2.

Autumn Term

We had a really busy first term with lots of activities and experiences based round our topic of 'Incredible Inventions'. The children learnt about inventions throughout history and their inventors. They then worked in teams to create their own inventions for the future, which they later presented in their own version of 'Dragon's Den'. Thank you to the parents/visitors who attended the event, the children and staff really appreciated you taking the time to see what we had been up to!

During the first half of the Autumn Term Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in Forest Schools classes. Here they learnt vital team work and survival skills in the local area. Despite the weather, the children were fully immersed in the outdoors and some even enjoyed the muddy conditions! Year 6 also contributed towards the upkeep of the schools allotment site. They learnt about maintaining the allotment and the various fruits and vegetables that can be grown. The produce that the children harvested was sold at the end of the year to raise further funds for the allotment.



Towards the end of the term a trip was organised to visit the New Vic Theatre to watch the Christmas production of 101 Dalmatians. As always, the New Vic Theatre put on a memorable and unique performance and the children thoroughly enjoyed the production; their behaviour and enthusiasm was a credit to the school.

Spring Term

This term, our topic is: 'Blitz and Pieces' and is based on World War II. We started off our topic with a visit from 'The Dinky Doos' a duo who specialise in songs from the World War II era. The children heard, and sang along to a number of well known war-time songs and learnt about the instruments that were used to play them.

Next week (Wednesday 12th February) we will be visiting Churnet Valley Railway station on an evacuee experience day. Both staff and children are looking forward to the experience which involves a trip on a steam train, tasting war-time foods and an experience of shopping with a ration book. (Please note that on this day the children are required to dress up as an evacuee)



Examples of evacuee costumes

SATs & Homework

As you will already be aware, this year is a very important time due to the fast approaching SATs tests, which will be on the week beginning **May 12th 2014**. Homework is an important aspect of their progress and helps to support the work they have covered in class and we appreciate support with this at home.

The children will continue with their weekly Reading Records which is enhancing their inference skills. In addition to this, the children now have Homework Books in which homework will be set on a weekly basis. This will be linked to the topics covered in class and will support their progress in Literacy and Numeracy leading up to their SATs. These homework books have been supplied by the school and the children are aware that they must look after these as the school cannot replace them.

The children have also been given revision booklets which are being kept in school until Easter, these will be used in class time and the children will be expected to take responsibility for their safe keeping and making the most of this resource.

Booster groups and Master classes have also started. These are aimed to support your child in their understanding of Literacy and Numeracy, letters have been sent to those children who the class teacher feels would benefit from additional help and we appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends these classes.

If there are any questions or queries regarding Year 6 please speak to any member of staff from the Year 6 team.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Year 6 Team

Helping your child at home:

Fantastic websites to help with your child's learning, targets and to also prepare them for SATs:

- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize
- www.purplemash.co.uk (children have their login details for this site)
- www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise
- www.studyladder.co.uk (children have their login details for this site)
- www.educationcity.co.uk