



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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YEAR 6 TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2017

Dear Parents,

We have already made a good start to our studies and I feel sure that you will make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses.

Assessment

Year 6 is an important year, marking the end of the Key Stage 2. Following the introduction of the new National Curriculum for Years 1-6 in 2014 and new assessment and reporting arrangements the Abbey School staff will assess the children's level of attainment at the end of each term (December, March, May) in Years 1-6 using the phrases:

- **Securely within Age Related Expectations (ARE)**
- **Broadly within ARE**
- **Below ARE**
- **Above ARE**

Formal 10 minute parent/teacher consultations take place in the middle of the Autumn and Spring Terms (October and February). This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, behaviour, social interactions and English and maths strengths and areas for development. The children's English and Maths books will be available for parents to look at. An annual report to parents is produced in the summer term.

Year 6 children will take the compulsory **Key Stage 2 National Curriculum assessments** and all Year 6 children in the UK will sit the same test on the same days in the week of the **14th May 2018**. Year 6 parents will receive the results from these assessments in the school reports which will be sent home with children in July 2018. The result will be both Teacher Assessments and Test Results.

End of Key Stage 2 Assessment Results

The phrase used in the end of Key Stage 2 assessments to describe those children working at age related expectations is: '**Working at the expected standard**'.

In Reading and Maths, children who are working below the 'expected standard' will be assessed as '**Has not met the standard**', indicating pupils working a little below the expected standard. Pupils working at a significantly lower standard of attainment will be assessed as '**Growing development of expected standard**'.





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Writing will be teacher assessed only, due to no formal testing. Children who are working **above** the 'expected standard' could be assessed as **'Working at greater depth within the expected standard'**.

In writing only, children who have not quite reached the 'expected standard' in teacher assessments will be assessed as **'Working towards the expected standard'**.

In Reading and Maths children cannot be judged any higher than 'working at the expected standard'. However, where the teachers feel that a child is working at greater depth, they will indicate this on the annual report using the phrase 'above ARE.'

Curriculum Meeting

We look forward to seeing many of you at the annual **Year 6 Curriculum Meeting** on Thursday 28th September at 2.30-3.20pm. On occasions such as these, parents must enter via the front door of school. The Year 6 class will not be in the classroom during the curriculum meeting and normal end of day arrangements will be in place.

Year 6 - SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES

For your information I have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 6.

English

- Ted Hughes: Making a study of powerful imagery in poetry
- Exploring features of different fiction genres – traditional tales, humour, mystery
- Fiction linked to our term's topic – notably 'Goodnight Mr Tom' by Michelle Magorian.
- Non-fiction autobiographies and biographies which recount experiences and events
- Understanding advertising of products and the language used to persuade people to buy or do something – radio reports and journalism
- Punctuation, spelling and grammar

Please note that as part my teaching I may be using DVD extracts from 'Good Night Mr Tom' by [Michelle Magorian](#) rated PG. If you would prefer your child not to watch these PG extracts, please inform me.

It would be extremely helpful if each child had their own copy of 'Good Night Mr Tom' to use in school.

Mathematics

- Number and place value (including 6-digit numbers, decimals to 3 decimal places and negative numbers)
- Problem-solving, reasoning and algebra (expressing missing number statements algebraically)
- Measurement: converting between different units of measure
- Worded problems – relevant information
- Mental Maths skills: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- 2D shapes: finding their properties and calculating area and perimeter



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- Fractions, ratio and proportion: adding and subtracting fractions, finding fractions of amounts, dividing unit and non-unit fractions by whole numbers

Science

- Electricity
- Light

Music

Our topic will be Journeys.

The children will learn to: sing in three-part harmony; explore expressive singing in part-songs developing song cycles for performance; sing with backing harmony; learn about a song's structure; develop planning, directing, and rehearsal skills.

PE

The children will learn skills in handball, football, indoor athletics and dance taught by Mr Morgan.

RE

In RE we will be thinking about the Creation story and asking big questions. We will be considering the meaning of Advent as preparation for Christmas as well as the deeper meaning of Christmas.

Computing

Our topic will be Sound Works

The children will learn about the history of sound recording. They will use software to produce their own music and record a podcast.

Other areas of study will include:

Our class topic '**Wartime St Albans**'

- The children will be studying the different battles and wars that have affected St Albans, including Boudicca's Revolt, The Wars of the Roses, World War One and World War Two. Included in this topic are Art and DT.
- As historians, the children will be learning about the causes and effects of WW1 and WW2, propaganda, evacuation, impact around the World and in Britain. They will learn about famous events, home life and world events in this era
- As artists, the children will be studying the work of war artists such as Paul Nash and John Singer Sargent. The children will also be studying and designing WW1 and WW2 propaganda posters and looking at art work from that period. The children will use a variety of mediums to create their own piece of remembrance art.

What do we expect of you, the parents? You can help and support us by:

- Regularly checking your child's homework to monitor that all homework has been completed and handed in on time and assisting with research as appropriate.
- Reading through your child's homework with them.
- Testing all times tables and weekly spelling rule on a regular basis.
- Listening to your child read each evening (or as often as possible) and questioning them on what they have read. Please check their reading log and sign off at the end of each week.



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Homework will be set on a regular basis – mainly Friday to Friday, with additional tasks being set as appropriate. English homework for the Autumn term will focus mainly on the children's reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar. Maths homework will frequently be Internet based, with children being asked to complete an online activity on their www.activelearnprimary.co.uk account ***It is worth checking that 'Flash' software is installed on computers/tablets at home as these will enable the activities to work effectively.*** When online tasks are not appropriate to the week's teaching, I will set a separate paper-based activity. I do appreciate that there can sometimes be issues regarding online activities. If children struggle to access any of these activities, I will allow them some computer time at break times in school to complete the tasks. Homework should not be rushed and always be presented well.

Your child should have his/her PE kit in school every day and outdoor sports clothing (including socks and trainers) should be brought in on Tuesdays and Fridays for the outdoor games sessions. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child does not have their kit in on a games day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session then a note must be provided.

Who will be working with your children this term?

I will be teaching Year 6 Monday to Friday. In addition to this, Mrs Price will be responsible for teaching Music every Thursday afternoon and Mr Morgan, a qualified sports coach, will be teaching Year 6 on Tuesday and Friday afternoons as part of the outdoor games curriculum.

We are fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Sherwood and Mrs Kelly assisting us in our daily Maths and English lessons respectively. Mrs Clarke will support in class all day Monday and Mrs Harris, Miss Alom and Mrs Berrington will be working in class at different times.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, in the first instance please come into school and speak with me. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely

Miss Hill
Year 6 Teacher