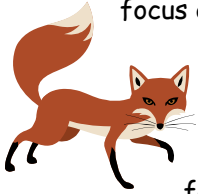


Year 6 Summer Term 2012

Hope you all had a good Easter and despite the wet, cold, weather are enjoying the lighter evenings and the thought of summer ahead! It is good to have all the children back refreshed and ready to really

focus on their learning over the next term.



With SATs looming ahead our main focus for Term 5 will be on revision of maths and literacy skills but we will continue to link our teaching as much as possible to our topic this term which is *Foxes & our Monarchy* (!) based on the book we are reading 'The Midnight Fox' by Betsy Byars and the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee.

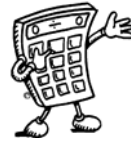
In Term 6 our main topic will be the *Olympics* alongside rehearsals for the Year 6 performance and preparation for transition to secondary school.

What will the children be learning?

As with our previous topics we shall try to base our curriculum around the topic. In particular this term literacy, art, design technology, science, ICT, history and drama will have links to our Topic.

Literacy - We are studying the book 'The Midnight Fox' and will use this as a basis for our writing, reading and drama activities. The children will be exploring different genres of writing linked to the text, including letters, stories, descriptive, poetry, newspaper and persuasive writing. Focussed reading comprehension will be based on extracts from the book but also there will be still be some past SATs questions to complete too to keep the children familiar with the layout and expectations of the SATs. Spellings will continue to be sent home each week and these are based on common spellings patterns and words often found in SATs tests. We will continue to have a Big Write but the tasks will be more SATs like with a set time to write and plan within. VCOP activities will continue to happen daily as part of the revision strategy.

Maths



In maths we will be revising the core strategies already taught and making sure the children are confident with their knowledge and supporting them in any weaker areas. They will continue to practise the mental maths test twice a week and have regular experience of working through SATs questions.

Topic

Science - We will be learning about various habitats around the world and focussing in particular on a UK woodland habitat where a red fox may live! We will investigate the climate, plants, animals and landscapes of habitats and move on to look at how the animals have adapted to their habitat and the food chains which exist there.



Geography - We shall study a habitat in our local area and hope to have a trip to Harcourt Arboretum to look at a woodland habitat first hand. We shall be doing some map work to locate different populations of foxes and how this relates to climate. We shall also be looking at the Commonwealth countries and learning about their locations.

History - With the Queen's Diamond Jubilee taking place in June we are going to be learning about our Monarchy: the life of the queen, how she became queen and her role for our country. We will look at other famous Kings and Queens too and map them on a time line in connection with other historical events.



DT - We shall be designing and making a fox mask for use in drama. Also they will create an Anti Fox Hunting logo which we will then ask the children to transfer onto a t-shirt. The making of crowns, flags and Jubilee biscuits will come later on in the term!

Art - We will be producing artwork based on the Midnight Fox, including silhouettes and collage. We will also study the artists who used pointillism and the children will create their own paintings of a fox experimenting with this technique.

PSHCE - Our theme for this term is 'Perseverance' and 'Aiming High' so we will be participating in activities and circle times to improve our confidence and commitment to doing our best in the SATs exams.

PE Lessons



This Term we will be playing Net games and fielding games. PE Kit needs to be in school from Monday to Friday please and can children please bring shorts as well as tracksuits.

ICT - We will be focussing on creating and using a database and the children will have a chance to make their own trailers for a film version of 'The Midnight Fox'.

French



The children will continue to develop their speaking and listening skills by hearing and saying words and phrases based on a variety of topics. We will be starting the French transition project based on a fable and the children will have some lessons taught by Ms Mainwaring from Henry Box. We will be building up to the whole school French day in July where Year 6 will be having lots of French fun and games!

RE

We are continuing to focus on Hinduism and comparing this religion to Islam and Christianity. We will be thinking about the differing beliefs on death and the afterlife and the rituals that surround a funeral for these religions. We will also learn about the places of pilgrimage for Muslims and Hindus and consider why it is important to go on a spiritual journey.



Please remember to support your child with the following so they can do their best in their SATs exams and continue to develop their learning further at home:



Homework

Maths, Spellings and Literacy

homework will continue to be sent home each week. Please ensure your child spends adequate time on this work and talk through any problems with them. In addition you can continue to help them work through the SATs workbooks recommended by us last term, which are fantastic revision aids but also give the children lots of confidence in their abilities.

Reading

It is really important that the children continue to read regularly and we expect them to read a minimum of 3 times a week for 10 to 15 minutes. The library bus comes every month and is an ideal opportunity to select a new book and get excited about what is out there to read!

School Website

Please encourage your child to use our school website to access a brilliant number of SATs revision games, activities and advice for maths, spelling and reading. 10 minutes four or five times a week will really help refresh their knowledge and make them ready to hit their targets!

SATs week commences on Monday 14th May, with the two writing tasks being carried out on a separate date before the end of Term 5.

Please do not hesitate to speak to one of us should you have any concerns about your child's homework or SATs exams, we are happy to support you and them!

Many thanks

S Savage and S Hudson-Shaw