

*Welcome back!*

*We hope everyone had a great festive time and wish you all the very best in 2018.*



### English

We will begin the spring term by exploring the features of different genres of fiction ranging from detective, sci-fi to ghost stories. We will then look at play scripts with particular focus on Shakespeare as we will be taking part in a workshop based on Macbeth. Other English topics will include persuasive writing, recounts and poetry. During the week the children will continue to be split for some of their English lessons giving them more support and extension with their learning. There will be three guided reading sessions a week in which the children will work with an adult in small groups to practise techniques such as summarising, prediction, inference and vocabulary recognition. Spelling work will continue to be on a weekly basis and word lists will be set for homework. If you know your child struggles in this area it could be a focus for additional work at home, the lists in the children's reading records are a useful place to begin.



### Maths

A wide range of topics will be covered including work on algebra, angles, area, perimeter, ratio, proportion, fractions, decimals, volume and measure. We will also continue to develop written and mental methods for the four number operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. During the week the children will continue to be split for some of their maths lessons allowing them more support and extension with their work. We will also continue to practise questions from SAT papers in order to apply their skills. Mental skills are very important and we will be completing regular practise papers.



### Science

We will be starting the term with a topic based on electricity in which we will be exploring different circuits and their effectiveness. We will then begin a topic relating to the classification of living things including the positive and negative effects of micro-organisms.



### Computing

We will continue to use the internet to carry out research and each time we will be looking at creating accurate searches also, how trustworthy the website is. During the term we will continue the work the children began in year 4 when they looked briefly at blogging. The children will be assigned their own logins this gives them the experience of using social media using a secure web site.



In **History** we will be looking at a new topic: Medicine through time, where the children will look at medical advancements beginning in the Stone Age and moving through time until we get to more modern day medicine.

The children will also be completing a **Geography** topic based the important subject of Climate Change. The causes and effects of global warming will explored.

In their weekly **RE** lessons the children will be looking at aspects of Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity.



The children will be continuing their **Music** lessons with Mr Mitchell where they will be working on listening, composing and performing. In **Art** they will find out about the clay work of Clarisse Cliff and will also be developing their drawing skills.

The children will also continue to work on their language skills with Mme Bruce on Wednesdays. Year 6 will be continuing to focus on **French**.

### Reminders

- We have **PE** on Monday. The children will need suitable clothing for these activities, please ensure the children have their kit in school all the time as these lessons may change. Swimming at Hatfield continues on Thursdays until half term, and the children need a suitable costume (1 piece for girls), a hat and a towel.
- **Year 6 SATs** take place in the week beginning **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018**. More information will be shared with you during a meeting to be held later in the year.
- As you know our **School journey** to Yorkshire has booked for the week beginning **25<sup>th</sup> June 2018**, more information will follow as soon as we have confirmed our plans.
- **Year 6 homework** will usually be given out on a Monday to be brought back to school on a Friday. Spellings will also be set during the week.
- The children are expected to read ***at least three times each week***, recording what they have read and having it signed by a parent, guardian or older brother or sister **with a comment** relating to how they enjoyed the book or anything they didn't understand. All reading entries should be in date order and signed by parents or carers. Reading records will be checked on a Friday and if your child hasn't read 3 times in a week then they will be given the opportunity to read during playtime on Friday. Children who read 5 times will be given a sticker for their book marks, when they achieve 5 stickers they will be given a prize!
- **Times tables** are very important for the majority of Maths work in year 6, for example, fractions, percentages, area, ratio, proportion etc and the children need to know and be able to use the multiplication and related division facts quickly in their everyday work.
- Please remember that every day at school is important and that holidays in term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Being late in the morning, places your child in a catch up situation for the first lesson, as we do begin teaching very promptly in Year 6.
- Please continue to encourage your child to make use of their **SAM** learning account - concentrating specifically on the core subjects of English, Maths and Science making use of the materials available for KS2 and KS3.

Please don't hesitate to come in and talk with us if you or your child are concerned about anything.

Thank you,

Mrs. Boylan, Mrs. Holt, Miss Gottlieb and Mrs. Quinn