



Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

- This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child this term.
- If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak or meet with us.

Thank you - Miss Womersley

Autumn Term 2023

English

This year, we will be continuing to follow the Grammarsaurus scheme. Each topic will be covered over a three week block and the spellings for that topic will be directly linked to the text. The spelling bookmarks will be sent home at the beginning of the topic to be practiced at home, they will also be available to view on seesaw.

In each English topic, all punctuation and grammar will be linked directly to the focus text. At the end of the three week block the children will write an extended piece of work which will be assessed.

Autumn 1

First of all, we will be writing a set of instructions linked to our current topic, The Monarchy. This text is called 'How to terrorise the peasants'.

Then we will move on to poetry, we will explore a range of content within each poetry style.

Autumn 2

At the start of this half term we will write a diary entry inspired by Anne Frank.

Then we will finish the term with an explanation text 'How did Britons survive the Blitz?' which is linked to our WW2 topic.

As a part of the three week block, the spelling test will be delivered on the final Friday of the block. The other two Friday lessons leading up to the test will be focused on practicing.



Grammarsaurus

Mathematics

As a school, we are continuing to follow White Rose Maths. The White Rose schemes of learning are designed to support a mastery approach to teaching and learning, as well as support the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum. The White Rose schemes have number at the heart and a lot of time is spent reinforcing number to build competency. It also provides opportunities to build reasoning and problem solving into each lesson. The children will be able to build on their abilities by following a concrete-pictorial-abstract approach where necessary (CPA).

Concrete: using concrete (real) objects and manipulatives to help them understand and explain what they are doing.

Pictorial: building upon the concrete approach by using pictorial representations, which can then be used to reason and solve problems.

Abstract: with the foundations firmly laid, children can move to an abstract approach using numbers and key concepts with confidence.

With this newsletter is a copy of our long term plan and a break down of the learning we will be covering this Autumn Term in small steps.



Homework

Each week, we will set talking homework, English and Maths on Wednesday to be complete by Monday. The talking homework and English will be uploaded onto Seesaw and Maths via MyMaths. If your child has forgotten their logon details, please let us know either by emailing the office or getting your child to ask us.



Other things to note...

Miss Womersley will be teaching in class 6 all week, except Thursday afternoons when she will have her out of class time for planning, preparation and assessment. On Thursday afternoons Mrs Bromley will be with class 6 and she will teach PSHE and Art/DT. Mrs Conner will be in class 6 Tuesday and Thursday morning until 1:30, as well as Wednesday morning until 10:45.

PSHE

In Autumn 1 we'll start by looking at relationships and specifically how friendships may change as we grow. We will then move on to look at how positive friendships and a balanced lifestyle, including taking part in clubs and groups, can help our mental wellbeing.

In autumn 2 we will celebrate Inclusivity Week, the focus this year is the impact of 'banter' and how what may be seen as a joke can be hurtful to others. This links nicely with our half term topic exploring diversity of families and relationships and also includes topics of kindness and individuality. We will also look at the legal implications of marriage and civil partnership, and the positive features of family life.



Reading

Each day we have a dedicated reading lesson, where we focus on the skills for reading, understanding and comprehension. We read a mixture of non-fiction, fiction and poetry texts and answer text based questions. These questions may be to support vocabulary, infer, prediction, explanations, retrieval or summary. During the autumn term we use the scheme, plazoom which the children are familiar with from Year 5.

Every day there's opportunity for the child to read their books independently as well as being read to by Miss Womersley.

It is of vital importance for children to read every day. Reading a wide range of different books stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Please encourage your children to read at home every day, even if it is just for 10 minutes.

Social reading will take place at some point once a week and the children can bring in their own reading material to share with others. The reading material can take many forms e.g. non-fiction texts, magazines, annuals etc.



Science

Our topic for Science this half term is Animals including humans. To start the topic we will be focussing on the circulatory system and the specific functions of the heart. We will then explore the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on our bodies. The learning in this topic is built on from Year 4 when the children studied the digestive system.

In the run up to Christmas, Year 6 will be focusing on Electricity. We will design and build successful circuits and begin to compare and give reasons for variation. We will look at representing circuits with recognised symbols. This will build on previous knowledge gained throughout KS2.



Religious Education

In Autumn 1 we will be looking at 'What will make our community a more respectful place?' We will be exploring diversity of people and faith within a community, how people with differing beliefs live side by side and what benefits this diversity has.

In Autumn 2 we will consider what it means if God is loving and holy. How do Christians put their beliefs into practice, balance the ideas of justice and forgiveness and how can we relate these beliefs to the world today?



Computing

The first half term is dedicated to Esafety. We begin the year by looking at our acceptable use agreement, how to keep safe on line and effective online communication. This is particularly important as more of our children have their own personal mobile phone as they prepare for High School.

After October, we are focusing on word processing. The children will learn vital skills for word and PowerPoint, whilst exploring how these skills can be implemented cross-curricular.

History

Our first topic is The Monarchy. We will be exploring the changing power of monarchs such as John, Anne and Victoria. We will be looking at the impact of the monarchy and how this has affected Britain today.

Our topic in Autumn 2 is World War 2. We will learn when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved. In addition to this, we will discover all about evacuation; learn what it was like to live with food rationing and explore the contribution made by women to the war effort. Furthermore, we will learn important facts about the Holocaust and investigate events that were key turning points in the war, such as the Battle of Britain and the German invasion of Russia.



Physical Education

Indoor PE is Monday and outdoor PE is on Wednesday. Your child should come to school in their PE kit on these days. Please make sure your child has the correct kit in school: shorts, t-shirt and pumps for indoor & long trousers, a long sleeved top and trainers for outdoors. PE is a statutory requirement. If your child is unable to do PE for any reason, please come and speak to us.

Jewellery must be removed for PE.

We are not following the GetSet4PE scheme for both indoor and outdoor PE.

Our outdoor PE topic is tag rugby, where we will be focusing on the fundamental skills for a game. In indoor PE we will be doing volleyball.

During the school week, we will be participating in the Daily Mile, with the aim of running a mile a day around our running track.



Art /Design Technology

For Art we will be studying the works of Banksy, a controversial graffiti artist-is it a crime or expression of opinion? Through Banksy, the children will create patterns for purpose with a particular focus on colour hue, tint, tone, shades and mood. The children will explore the use of texture in colour, colour for purposes and colour to express feelings. We will relay these techniques into a piece of street art inspired artwork.

In Autumn 2 the children will be using their previously developed sewing skills for a DT project and creating a piece of artwork to mark Remembrance Day.

We will also take part in food technology sessions with Mrs Roberts.



Music

In Autumn 1 the children will be using the cheranga scheme to explore different types of music as well as reading music of different tempo, rhythm and beats.

In Autumn 2 Year 6 will be building on their existing skills of being able to read music by learning to play the ukulele. This session will be on Monday afternoon. Miss Reynolds will be delivering these sessions.

French

Year 6 are lucky to be taught by Mrs Conner for their French lessons. Mrs Conner is French and has excellent knowledge and understanding of the curriculum.

