

Year 5 and 6

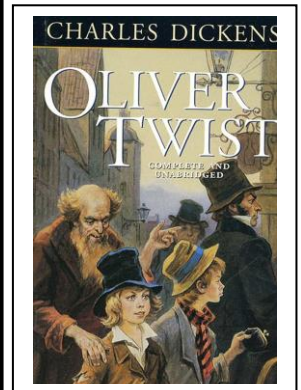
Curriculum Letter

Summer 1 2024

In **English** lessons this half term, our non-fiction work will be balanced arguments. We will be looking at the specific features of this type of genre; reading different examples and then writing balanced arguments.

Our fictional writing will be linked to our history topic: the Victorians. We will be reading *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens. In our grammar and punctuation work we will continue to develop colons and semi-colons; dashes, commas and brackets; continuing to vary sentence openers; and using different types of figurative language for setting and character description. We will be writing diary entries, letters, biographies, wanted posters and descriptive narratives.

The children will also be developing their drama skills: speaking, listening and acting. They are starting rehearsals this half term for our class production of **Bugsy Malone**. Please help your child to learn their lines as quickly and as confidently as possible: making sure they speak with **fluency, expression, clarity** and **volume**. This would be very much appreciated.



In **Maths** the children will consolidate their learning from the academic year so far. In addition, they will also continue to practise their times tables every day in a 2-minute challenge.

The objectives which the children will cover this half term include the following: reading and interpreting line graphs; one and two-way tables and timetables; locating co-ordinates on grids; translation and reflective symmetry and consolidation of angles, 2D and 3D shapes and volume. In addition, the Year 6 children will be revising maths objectives from all of Key Stage 2 in preparation for their SATs in the middle of May.

ART: This half term our art work is linked to settings: we will study the work of the French painter and sculptor Paul Gauguin, Claude Monet and the American artist Georgia O'Keeffe.

In **History** this half term we will be learning about the Victorians. As well as learning about the key events of this period within the Victorian era, we will also be learning about Queen Victoria herself and her family. We also be researching and writing about Victorian inventors and their inventions; children in Victorian times, including jobs, games and the workhouses; Victorian Schools, and The Industrial Revolution and its impact on Victorian Britain.

PE this half term will be learning and developing cricket skills with Nick from Worcestershire Cricket. We will be improving our throwing, catching and hitting techniques. **PE** with Mr Dennis will be developing gymnastics skills. In this unit the children will learn, develop and apply all gym skills on the floor, with hand apparatus and on low apparatus through focused skill development, sequence creation and games.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) will continue with learning the **German** language. The children will consolidate and re-visit work from earlier in the year.

In addition, the children will also learn the vocabulary associated with animals and household pets; food and drink; and school subjects.

In **Computing** this half term, learners will explore the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. First, children find out what variables are and relate them to real-world examples of values that can be set and changed. Then they use variables to create a simulation of a scoreboard. In Lessons 2, 3, and 5, which follow the Use-Modify-Create model, learners' experiment with variables in an existing project, then modify them, before they create their own project. In Lesson 4, learners focus on design. Finally, in Lesson 6, children apply their knowledge of variables and design to improve their games in Scratch.



The **Science** topic this half term is: Properties and Changes of Materials. The children will be taught science by Mrs Armstrong this half term. The children will continue their learning about solids, liquids and gases. They will learn how states of matter change when either heated or cooled. They will learn about reversible and irreversible changes; soluble and insoluble materials and how to separate materials through evaporation and filtration.

RE this half-term is based around the key question: **What matters most to Christians and Humanists?** This includes looking and how we live by different codes of conduct; that a person can be 'good without god' and to build on the concepts of fairness, forgiveness and justice.

In **Music** this term, the children will be learning a complete musical performance about slave trade in a West African Village. This unit includes Ghanaian and percussion rhythms. In addition, the children will be learning the songs for our upcoming class performance of Buggy Malone. Please help them learn the song words and music at home.

In **PSHE** this half term, we will be learning about Growing Up: this includes discussing our changing bodies; our changing emotions; the different types of relationships in society today and human reproduction. In addition, we will also be learning about sex education (more details to follow on this particular aspect).

This half-term, English homework will be set every **Friday**, and should be completed and handed in by the **Thursday** of the following week.

Maths homework will also be set every **Friday**, and should be completed and handed in by the **Thursday** of the following week.

Each homework task should take between **20 and 30 minutes**.

Spellings will be given out every **Friday** and the children will be tested the following **Friday**.

We would like children to read at home at least **three** times per week.

Do not forget **Times Table Rock Stars**, which the children can access at home - this will help them with fluency and accuracy of all appropriate times tables. If your child has forgotten their details please let me know.