

Year 5 and 6

Curriculum Letter

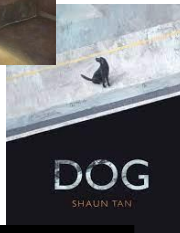
Spring 1 2024

In **English** lessons this half term, our work will be related to the following texts written by the author Shaun Tan: **The Lost Thing**; **The Red Tree** and **Dog**.

Our grammar work will look at understanding and developing the use of: relative clauses including relative pronouns; word classes; continuing to vary sentence openers; using "ed" drop in clauses, active and passive sentences; main and subordinate clauses within sentences and continuing to use different types of figurative language for setting and character description.

Our work on punctuation development will focus on: the use of apostrophes for contraction and possession; colons for lists and semi-colons to separate phrases within a list; as well as using colons and semi-colons to separate clauses.

Our non-fiction work will focus on developing the writing of non-chronological reports, which will be linked to our geography topic on South America.



In **Maths** the children will consolidate their fluency skills linked to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will be learning how to calculate equivalent fractions for both unit and non-unit fractions as well as simplifying fractions and converting between mixed number fractions and improper fractions. The children will be ordering fractions, including fractions greater than one; adding and subtracting fractions and multiplying fractions. The children will be given opportunities to solve one, two and multi-step worded problems, as well as developing their skills in reasoning and explaining. Once the children have secured their knowledge of fractions they will proceed to develop their knowledge of decimals.

ART: This half term our art work is linked to our DT topic, which is textiles. The children will be looking at the work of different textile artists and then designing and making items using different fabrics.

The **Geography** this half term will be learning about South America. As well as learning about the location of this continent we will also be developing our knowledge of the physical and human geographical features of South America. Our **key driver** for this topic is **Care for our Environment**, therefore we will also study The Amazon Rainforest, and look at how this physical feature has changed over time and the effects these changes have and will have on our planet.

PE this half term will be **REAL PE**, which will be led by Mr Dennis on a Thursday afternoon, and Mrs Waller, which will be Tag Rugby outdoors on a Monday afternoon (weather permitting). Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school at all times. It is easier if their PE kit stays in school but we understand if this is difficult, especially if they need trainers at home as well. If your child needs to bring their PE kit into school, problems may arise if the day for PE changes.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) will continue with learning the German language. The children will consolidate and re-visit work from Autumn 2: including greetings and numbers.

The children will develop their knowledge of the verbs: to have and to be as well as the pronouns: I, he, she. The children will be learning about: days of the week and months of the year and telling the time (o'clock and half past). The children will be reading, writing and speaking German words and sentences.

In **Computing** this half term, the children will be introduced to spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set. The children will be taught the importance of formatting data to support calculations, while also being introduced to formulas and will begin to understand how they can be used to produce calculated data. Learners will be taught how to apply formulas that include a range of cells, and apply formulas to multiple cells by duplicating them. Learners will use spreadsheets to plan an event and answer questions. Finally, learners will create charts, and evaluate their results in comparison to questions asked.



The **Science** topic this half term is: Forces and the children will be developing their early learning of pushes and pulls by learning about friction, gravity, air resistance and water resistance. The children will be undertaking investigations this term into these different aspects of forces.

RE this half-term is based around the key question:
What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?

The children will learn about the Five Pillars of Islam: Shahadah; Salah, Zakah, Sawm and Hajj.

In **Music** this term, the children will be exploring beat and syncopation through a song and body percussion; developing co-ordination and rhythm skills; performing a rhythmic sequence to a piece of music; developing the idea of pitch shape and relating it to movement and understanding pitch through movement and notation.

In **PSHE** we will be learning about Rights and Respect. This will include learning about the benefits of saving money; different ways money can be saved; suggesting sale prices for items as well as democracy in Britain.

This half-term English homework will be set every **Friday**, and should be completed and handed in by the **Thursday** of the following week. This will be set by **Mrs Waller**. Maths homework will be set every **Friday**, and should be completed and handed in by the **Thursday** of the following week. This will also be set by **Mrs Waller**. Each homework task should take between 20 and 30 minutes.

Spellings will be given out by **Mrs Waller** 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.

Kind regards Mrs Waller