



# Year 6 Deer Class Newsletter

## Term 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 6. I hope you all had a lovely half term and that the children enjoyed a restful break ahead of this very busy term. I cannot believe we have reached the final term of the school year and, of course, a very special one for your children, as they come to the end of their time at Boughton. We have a jam-packed term ahead, full of great projects and activities that I hope will leave the children with lovely memories of their last weeks at primary school.

### Curriculum Overview

With the aim of working in partnership with you to support your child's learning, the following provides a brief outline of the teaching and learning that will take place across the curriculum in Year 6 this term.

In **literacy**, we will focus largely on extended writing over the next few weeks, enabling the children to demonstrate the wide range of writing skills they have developed over the course of the year. To start the term, we will use an animation of 'The Tale of Three Brothers' from Harry Potter as a stimulus for writing character descriptions and retelling the narrative in detail, integrating dialogue and description into our work. We will then conduct research into environmental issues to create information reports and persuasive adverts; and we will explore poetry, including writing some rhyming poems of our own. Through our work on the end of year production, children will practise their speaking, listening and drama skills.

Our **maths** this term will focus on real-life maths, such as data handling investigations, work with measures, and revision of time and timetables. The children will work collaboratively on mini projects, such as designing and budgeting for a new bedroom, calculating costs of hosting a party and other problem-solving challenges and enquiries. We will continue to practise our mental arithmetic skills during early morning work.

We have covered a wide range of **science** topics throughout the year, and this term will include some new learning, as well as revisiting and building on previous work. We will explore the human body, with a focus on arteries, veins and the human circulatory system, as well as revisiting ideas about animal adaptation and classification, and investigating fossils.

In **history** this term, we will continue our topic on the Ancient Mayan Civilization, in which we will find out about Mayan cities, such as Chichen Itza; investigate their religious beliefs and practices; create fact files about their multiple gods; explore Mayan foods and look at examples of Mayan art. We will complete cross-curricular artwork this term, designing Mayan masks and Mexican mandalas, inspired by our learning in history.

Our **music** this term will continue to focus on learning, rehearsing and performing the songs for our Year 6 Production, which will be performed in July. There will be opportunities for developing singing skills such as singing in tune with good diction; singing in unison; solos and singing in a chorus; and performing to an audience.

In **RE** we will be exploring the question: 'What do religions say to us when life gets hard?' This unit opens up discussions about how spirituality and faith helps people to cope with difficulties in life, such as suffering and bereavement, and looks at contrasting religious and humanist views about life after death. We appreciate that this is a sensitive subject, but it will be taught in a child-friendly way. If you or your children have any concerns during this topic, please do not hesitate to speak with one of the Year 6 team.

Our **PSHE** work this term will focus largely on transition for moving onto secondary school and general ideas about growing up. We will continue to consider the overarching questions, 'What will change as we become more independent?' and 'How do friendships change as we grow?' We will complete some focussed relationships and sex education (RSE), covering topics such as puberty, personal hygiene, consensual relationships and conception.

In **computing** this term, the children will work collaboratively to use a range of software and different devices for creating multimedia presentations about our school. They will take photographs, which they can import to Google Slides, add video and website links, import voice recordings and type information, to which they can make visual edits and adjustments.

In **art & DT**, we will complete some cross-curricular work with our history topic on the Mayans, in which the children will research, design and create their own Mexican mandalas, with a focus on symmetry, pattern and colour. We will also design traditional Mayan masks and the children will be helping to prepare scenery and props for our end of year production.

Our **PE** this term will include dance, rounders and athletics. PE lessons will be taught on a **Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon** this term, and your child can wear their PE kit into school on these days. If your child wears earrings, please ensure they are either removed or covered on PE days and that any long hair is tied back. As the weather (hopefully) gets warmer this term, please ensure your child has their water bottle in school, especially on PE days.

In **French** this term, we will continue working through different areas of conversational French, looking at subjects such as family, personal information and general greetings. The focus will be on using the conversational phrases verbally and writing key vocabulary down accurately in short games and activities.

## Secondary Transition

Transition meetings with secondary school teachers are already well underway, and these meetings will continue throughout Term 6. During these visits, a member of the Year 7 team at the relevant secondary schools will meet with the children and myself. These meetings offer a valuable opportunity for me to pass on key information about your child's learning, behaviour and attitudes, as well as time for the children to meet staff from their new school. In July, the children will spend time at their new schools during transition days. Please look out for information regarding transition days from your child's secondary school.

## End of Year Production

As I am sure the children have told you, we are now working on our end of year production, which is an adaptation of Aladdin, newly-named 'A-la-la-la-laddin!' The children have all been given their scripts and we will be confirming their parts imminently so that they can start practising their lines and songs wherever possible. It would be very helpful if you are able to provide a costume for your child, but please do speak to me if there are any queries around this, as we will be able to help. Over the next week or so, we will talk to each child about the type of costume they will need, if they have not already got ideas of their own. I will write a separate letter about props that we might be looking for in due course, but for now, if I could ask for any donations of cardboard, we would be very grateful, as this will help us create scenery and props. Thank you in advance.

## Home learning

Throughout June and early July, I will continue to set spellings on a Thursday, to be tested the following Tuesday, and I will set a maths assignment on Maths Shed every week. Please do encourage your child to learn their spellings at home and to keep reading as often as they can.

It would also be very helpful if your child could spend time learning their lines and the songs for our end of year production, as this will help our rehearsals in school enormously. Thank you for your support with this.



## Our Class Targets

Across the school, we are working hard to develop all children's independence by setting small targets for the children to work on. With this in mind, the targets for Year 6 this term are:

- To organise their own belongings more effectively.
- To show increased maturity in their behaviour and consideration for others.
- To continue to show growing independence in all aspects of school life.

### Dates for your diary:

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June: Year 6 trip to Mote Park & Gravity, Maidstone

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June: Year 5/6 swimming (only for those pupils who received a letter)

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June: Secondary Transition Talk from Child-Centred Policing Team

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July: Transition Day (some secondary school dates may differ)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July: Summer Fayre

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 Production Dress Rehearsal (performed to the school)

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Workshop

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 Production Performance to parents (6pm)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 Production Performance to parents (6pm)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July: Sports Day (all morning)

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 Swimming at Kent College & Leavers BBQ after school for Year 6 children

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July: Leavers Assembly 2pm & last day of term

I hope that this final term at Boughton will be one filled with enjoyment, excitement and a real sense of achievement for the children. I am so proud of their fantastic progress this year, and I am sure we will have a lovely last term together. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to me on the playground or contact me via the school office.

Kind regards,

Miss Holmes