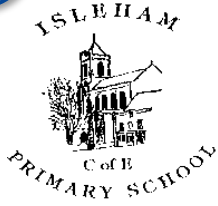


# Isleham Primary School Year 6 Spring News

January 2021 • Malting Lane, Isleham, Ely, Cambs. CB7 5RZ Tel: 01638 780336



## Welcome to Year 6

**Ms Sassoli, Mrs Tait, Mrs Cole & Mr Nichols**

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term in Year 6! The Year 6 team hope you have all had a safe, restful and re-energizing Christmas holiday.

Our topic this term is 'Amazing Americas' which will have a Geography focus in Spring 1 looking at Physical and Human Geography of North America. For Spring 2, we have a History focus where we turn our attention to Maya Civilization. Our English text 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell will help to support our topic.

Spring Term in Year 6 is a hard-working term. We will have a lot to get through in preparation for the Year 6 SATs in May so please do help your child achieve the most out of the term by ensuring they are well-rested, well-fed and in school on time and ready to learn.

Please also ensure they have all they need for each school day including a water bottle, a fresh fruit or vegetable snack and a waterproof coat – we like to take them outside as much as possible to have fresh air.

Please don't forget to keep looking at class dojo for general updates and also to see the weekly homework tasks. Homework is set on Thursday evenings and includes spellings, an English Task (Reading and/or Writing) and a Maths Task. Don't forget, you can also use your Spelling Shed log-in to practise your weekly spellings. It is great to see the Year 6 pupils taking greater responsibility in completing their homework on time. This is fantastic preparation for moving to college in September.

PE kits continue to be needed to be worn on Mondays and Wednesdays. If there is a change to this plan, we will keep you up-to-date via class dojo.

Please remember that the Year 6 team are not able to check and/or reply directly to messages on class dojo on a daily basis – only when they have release time from class. Therefore, if you wish to send a message about school pick-up, or send a query, concern or more urgent request to the teacher or leadership team, please message the school office email [office@isleham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@isleham.cambs.sch.uk) or Mrs Skillern email [head@isleham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:head@isleham.cambs.sch.uk). Just to remind, notes about who will be picking children up need to be made by 8.30am daily, so that these can be handed to teachers at the start of the day along with any gate messages. Many thanks.

The Year 6 Team

**For Your  
Calendar:**

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup>-Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
Half-term holiday

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**  
Staff training day

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Last day of Spring Term

# What we are learning this term:

## English

We will be using the book 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell as a stimulus for our writing tasks in Spring term. From this text we plan to write fiction and non-fiction texts along with poetry and plays.

Editing written work (proof-reading and up-levelling) will take a major focus this term helping pupils to really show off their abilities in writing and encouraging them to create opportunities to show off Year 6 writing criteria.

## Maths

In Maths, we will be moving onto Power Maths Textbook and Practice Book 6B. We plan to cover Unit 7: Decimals, Unit 8: Percentages, Unit 9: Algebra, Unit 10: Measure - Imperial and Metric Measure, Unit 11: Measure - Perimeter, Area and Volume along with open-ended problem-solving tasks.

We'll continue to recap methods for the 4 operations (arithmetic-style) and sharpen up times-tables, division and related facts through the use of speed tests.

## Topic – Amazing Americas

In Spring 1, we will focus on Physical and Human Geography by looking at the continent of North America. Computing skills will come into play as we research facts for a tourist brochure.

In Spring 2, we will turn our attention to Maya Civilization in a History-based topic focusing on Maya cities, gods, number system and food.

## Science

Science in Spring 1 will be 'Evolution and Inheritance'. Here we explore inheritance and variation with a focus on the discoveries of Charles Darwin. This leads naturally into adaptation and how fossils help us to understand the past.

In Spring 2, the unit is called 'Living Things and their Habitats'. This unit focuses on how plants, animals and micro-organisms can be classified based on specific characteristics.

## RE

Our Spring 1 unit is 'Creation and Science: conflicting or complementary?' This unit links beautifully with our Science unit for Spring 1 and looks at various viewpoints held by Christians and Scientists.

In Spring 2, we consider 'Humanism' by covering the questions: How do Humanists decide what to believe? What are Humanists' views on happiness? What do Humanist celebrations tell us about the things Humanists value? And, what do Humanists value in life?

## Art and Design Technology

In Art in Spring 1 we look at the South American artists: Frida Kahlo, Joaquin Torres Garcia and Leonora Carrington and use their artwork to help inspire our own self-portraits, symbols and dream catchers.

Global Food is our focus in DT in Spring 2. As well as considering where our food comes from and what makes a balanced diet, we plan to prepare some Mexican and Mayan dishes using a variety of skills. Aprons at the ready!

## PE

PE continues to take place outside on the playground surface. As a result, we have to adapt the Year 6 PE curriculum to accommodate the COVID restrictions.

We plan to continue building up stamina through the use of circuit training and ABC (agility, balance, co-ordination) multi-skill activities.

We also hope to focus on teamwork through the use of OAA activities and hockey.

## Computing and PSHE

In Computing, we will be using our knowledge and understanding of the micro-bits to program robo-bits. We'll also cover the e-safety units: We will not share inappropriate images, we are safe social networkers and we are respectful of others.

In PSHE, we'll look at the units: Managing Risks, Diversity and Communities, Financial Capability, Family and Friends