

# Foxfield Year 6 Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! We are thrilled to welcome the children back after the long break, ready to start the year. We had a busy last half term with lots of exciting activities including the Christmas nativities, you can also see our final outcome here.

During this term, as part of our global curriculum, we will be focusing on power and governance and the power of influence and learning how everyone has the power to create positive change.



In history, the children will be learning about the golden age of the Benin Empire with a focus on the city of Benin and its position as one of the main hubs of trade on the African continent. The children will learn about the influence of this African empire and discover a range of leaders and emperors from this period of history. Links will be made between the positive influences of the Benin Kingdom on a local level, a national level and a global scale focusing on the arts, science and culture. Children will be able to draw comparisons between the Roman, Greek, British and Benin Empires and learn the stories of great leaders from Africa. Children will also consider the historical and current implications of the bronze plaques. They will debate whether these artefacts should be returned and what led to the demise of the empire. This topic also provides opportunities for children to consider how we know about periods of history with

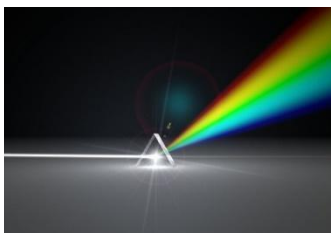
no primary written sources, allowing pupils to evaluate the reliability of different types of evidence.



In English, we are excited to begin our new core text, “No Ballet Shoes in Syria”. The story follows Aya who is a Syrian asylum seeker, looking after her mother and baby brother in the cold, unfamiliar city of Manchester – but she is also a talented ballet dancer. A part of her life that seemed lost forever when she fled her home comes back to her when she encounters a ballet class led by the elegant Miss Helena. As the book unfolds, she finds new friends and learns to depend on “the kindness of strangers”. For our writing outcomes,

we will be writing a persuasive letter to the government to allow the main protagonist to stay in the United Kingdom and finally, a contrasting non-linear narrative.

In maths this half term, Year 6 will be focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages. They will be learning how to identify fraction, decimal and percentage equivalents, ordering fractions, decimals and percentages and percentage of amounts. They will be applying their knowledge of missing number problems from previous years to work on algebra and how to solve one and two step equations. Lastly, the children will begin working with shape and space with a particular focus on area, perimeter and volume.



In science, year 6 will be building on their Year 3 learning about light through analysing how it travels in straight lines as well as creating and recording an experiment to show how shadows behave, how light is reflected from various surfaces and how objects are seen from different light sources.

Our Art learning will be linked with our maths learning on coordinates and symmetry. The children will be working towards creating geometric patterns and Islamic Art. Our outcome will be mosaic patterns that are often found in Syria, inspired by art from the golden age of Islamic civilization.



In RE, the children will be using a programme from digital platform, LYFTA to learn about how life is a journey and understand how different religions and cultures experience and celebrate loss and bereavement. We will look into detail how families in the LYFTA programme experience and accept grief as well as how they work together as they move on from the loss of someone.

In PE, the children will be developing their flexibility, strength, technique and control in gymnastics. They will then create their own sequences by combining all the techniques they would have learnt and critically analyse each other's performances.

Please remember that reading every day is essential. Please support your child at home and take the time to read a range of different texts which include newspapers, comics, fiction texts, blogs, information books. Children are encouraged to change their book every week and record their comments in their reading journal. We welcome parental involvement in the life of our school. If you are able to visit the school or help in any way, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Supporting Your Child at Home**

**Home Learning:** Log in to Purple Mash and complete set tasks.

**Reading Records:** Please read daily with your child and record information in the area provided.

**Dates for the Diary**

**2nd February - A whole class reading session will be modelled by the teacher.** An exciting opportunity to observe how we teach reading.

**23rd January - Author Visit**

**10th February - End of term**

**General Information**

**PE: Every Friday** - Please ensure clean PE kits are brought weekly.

**Water bottles:** Please ensure your child brings a clean, suitable water bottle into class with their name on.

**Lost property:** To ensure that personal items are not lost, please write your child's name on their book bag and all of their clothing.

**Thank you for your support**

For up to date learning notifications and photographs of your children please follow us on twitter.

@Willow\_Foxfield

@BeechFoxfield

@ElmFoxfield

