

The Truth is Out There

How are Mysteries Made?

YEAR 6 SPRING 2016

Welcome back!

It's Spring! Welcome back to what looks to be an incredible term of hard work, success and creativity! We're excited to be continuing 'The Year to Create!' and with this, there promises to be endless **dreaming, asking, aspiring, achieving and believing.**

Within our theme of creating, we will focus our learning this term on '**The Truth is Out There: How are Mysteries Made?**' This will involve an in depth exploration of mysteries around the world, with specific requests from the Year 6s to delve into the mysterious Bermuda Triangle, UFOs, as well as the Loch Ness Monster!

RE will follow the Come and See topics of:

Sources: in which we will explore the resources we use to deepen our spirituality, with a clear focus on the Christian bible.

Unity: in which pupils will deepen their understanding of their church community, and how the Eucharist unites Christians.

Death and New Life: where pupils will learn more about and celebrate Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.

In **English**, Year 6 will continue to familiarize themselves with a range of texts, punctuation and grammar, looking especially at themes of mystery, legend and folklore. Our class read, 'Skellig' (suitable for ages 8-12 years), explores the mystery behind a strange creature found in the garage of a home.

Maths will focus on revising all aspects of the curriculum as well as perfecting our arithmetic and written skills, and applying these to a range of problems, building our resilience even further.

Science will involve a look at mysterious solutions, mixtures and what makes chemical reactions reversible and irreversible; then we will explore the truth behind mysteries of Earth and beyond, with a UFO twist.

Computing will link to **Geography** and **History**, which will explore Bermuda's mysteries in more detail, looking at its physical and human geography, significant turning points in its history and of course, the Bermuda Triangle Mystery.

Art and **DT** will continue this theme, with pupils exploring national dishes of Bermuda and mysterious, surreal art in the form of Picasso, linking some of his brighter art to Caribbean art.

In **PE**, we are excited to continue working with a sports coach to perfect our invasion games skills, as well as continue to develop our confidence and fluency in dance every Friday.

EVERY GREAT DREAM
BEGINS WITH A
DREAMER.
ALWAYS REMEMBER,
YOU HAVE WITHIN YOU
THE STRENGTH,
THE PATIENCE,
AND THE PASSION
TO REACH FOR THE
STARS
TO CHANGE
THE WORLD.
HARRIET TUBMAN

KEY DATES

5th Jan AM: IMPS visit, QMC

7th Jan 9am: Whole School Mass

12th Jan: Ten Ten Theatre (parent viewing 9am)

13th Jan, PM: Talent Show Auditions

28th Jan, 1.30pm: KS2 Talent Show

10th Feb 9am: Ash Wednesday Mass

11th Feb, 6.30pm: Music Evening

12th Feb: Inset Day

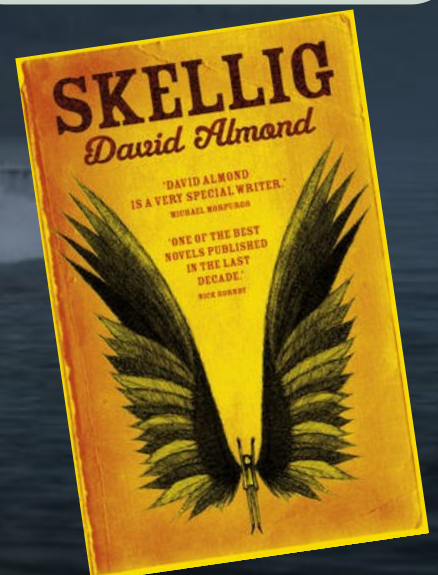
15th-19th Feb: Half Term

15th March 4-7pm: Parents' Evening

16th March 1.30-3.30pm: Parents' Afternoon

18th March: Sport Relief Day

24th March, 2.15pm: Crucifixion





NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

As you are already aware, the Year 6 National Assessments are fast approaching. You will be receiving more information about the tests in due course.

Your child has a maths revision book and a pocket English and Maths book to help them learn key facts and practise the skills they have been taught in class. Please encourage them to use these regularly to help with daily homework, revision and recall of knowledge. They will also continue to have daily homework to help with this.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND VISITORS

We have already visited the QMC to take part in the IMPS (Injury Minimisation Programme), which has taught us about the importance of good health. We are also lucky to have local PCSOs coming into school to deliver a crime prevention programme to the Year 6s. In addition, we plan to investigate the truth behind the mysteries of Nottingham in a Mystery tour of the city, as well as take part in steel –pan drumming to really live the life of Bermuda! Finally, we hope to welcome back some scientists to deepen our understanding of the truth behind how our solar system works and chemical reactions. Dates to be confirmed.

How You Can help:

- Ensure your child is wearing **correct uniform** in school. Also, **PE kits** will be needed **every day**. Kits should be appropriate for the season i.e. both outdoor and indoor kits are needed for the winter months. Inhalers must be in school at all times also. Hair should be tied back and jewellery removed.
- Ensure your child is in school in time for registration (8.55am).
- Check **homework diaries** regularly as they are one of the best methods of communication. They are checked once a week on **Mondays**, and must be **signed** by a parent / guardian for this day.
- The children will be set **daily homework** which **MUST** be completed, usually for the next school day. At this point in school, pupils should become more and more independent at homework. In Year 6, this will involve a minimum of a 30 minute tasks every weekday. There is opportunity to come into school early from 8.45am to work on homework, as well as homework clubs twice a week before and after school.
- It is *vitaly* important that the children know their **number facts** (addition and subtraction facts to 100; multiplication and division facts to 12 x 12). Multiplication, division, addition and subtraction facts are the basis of everything else that is learnt in Maths. Children will have weekly number facts to learn and quizzed on them every Monday. Help them to know them as fast as they know their name!
- Unless learning lines and lyrics, children will have a set of **spellings** to learn each week, to be tested every Monday. Please keep checking them on these daily. Writing them down repetitively is effective and excellent preparation for the national assessments.
- **Encourage** your child **to read every day**. Record in their diaries the pages they have read and initial this to enable good communication with home and school. This recording is seen as evidence that they have read every day and is treated as homework, being checked every **Monday**. Encourage your children to read at home as much as possible and ask them questions about the story plot, parts they are enjoying, the types of books they like etc. It is also important that your child enjoys listening to books read also. Children are never too old for an audio book or a bedtime story!
- Take a look at Year 6s class page and **blog** for more information! brwacademy.com

Finally, your help this term will be invaluable. We'd like to **thank you** in advance for your resolute support in helping your child reach the full potential in their final year at Blessed Robert Widmerpool. We are all looking forward to making it a wonderful year to remember in which they go further than they ever have and really make their mark!