



Africa Awaits...

This term's topic title, '**Africa Awaits**' will form the basis of our adventures this spring term.

Having used the children's own ideas for inspiration, we begin by travelling to Africa (with the help of our imagination of course!) and listening to the energetic drum beats in traditional music and testing out our rhythm by taking part in African drumming ourselves! We will be delving deep into the desert and grasslands of Africa to discover just what creatures and plants these biomes and others around the world contain.

Our RE topics this term, which will be at the heart of our work, are:

Sources - The children will explore a wide variety of books and why they were written.

Unity - The qualities that nourish and spoil a friendship will be explored alongside how the Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in Communion every day.

Death and New Life - The Church's season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter will be this topic's focus. Year 6 will also present the story of the crucifixion during Holy Week.

In **English**, the children will be studying a range of literature and will revise a variety of writing genres (poetry, narrative, reports, diary entries, persuasive writing etc). We will be reading a selection of stories based in Africa and other genres that inspire the children to read for pleasure. We will be making use of the iPads to be transported to Africa where some of our writing ideas will be centered. Having entered a national reading competition (Read For My School) running from January through to March, I am determined to ensure Year 6 continue to uncover the treasures hidden in a world of books!

"The more you read, the more you'll know. The more you read, the more places you'll go!"

Dr Seuss

In **Mathematics** the children will be developing the speed and accuracy of their mental maths skills, their thirst and resilience for rich, open-ended problem solving and we will be revising all topic areas (number, fractions, shape and space, data handling).

Art sessions will focus on recreating the beauty of African landscapes using digital art and the creation of our very own African masks! Time in the Computing Lab will focus on designing and programming African animals using Lego! Watch out for the snapping crocodiles on the blog!

Diary Dates

KS2 Talent Show 1.30pm
Thursday 29th January

KS1 Talent Show 9.10am
Friday 30th January

Disco
Friday 6th February

Music Evening, 6pm
Thursday 12th February

INSET
Friday 13th February

World Book Day
Thursday 5th March

Parents Consultation 4-7pm
Tuesday 10th March

Parents Consultation 1.30 - 3.30pm
Wednesday 11th March

Last Supper Mass
Thursday 26th March

Crucifixion 10am
Friday 27th March

Ways To Help

“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.”



There are many ways you can help your child fulfill their full potential in this important term:

- 1) Check homework diaries regularly for up-to-date information and sign weekly. **The children will be set homework daily which MUST be completed.**
- 2) Regularly revisit multiplication and division facts with your child - this really does make a difference! They should know these facts as fast as they can answer the question, “What is your name?”
- 3) 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!
- 4) Visit the library regularly to research topics of interest.
- 5) Ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform, is well organised, has full PE kit and is on time for school.

Your support really will help!

SATS Preparation

As you are already aware, the Year 6 SATS 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. They will also continue to have daily homework to help with this.

Regular practice of mental maths skills is **crucial**. Every week the children will be given particular skills to focus on. It is important for the children to do this and it would be incredibly helpful if you could spend some time working with your child on this. Short and frequent sessions are most effective.

Regular reading comprehension exercises, writing tasks and spelling homework will also be set.

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

And Finally...

If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I look forward to our African adventures and hard work this term!

Miss Ferrara

Take a look at our adventures this term on the Year 6 blog!
Our work is inspiring others all over the world - our hits
around the globe are growing!
Visit <http://brw.academy.com>

