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**Executive Head Teacher:** Mr A.Sunner

**Head of School:** Mr J.Downs

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Year 6 parents/carers,

## Year 6 Curriculum Letter - Autumn (1<sup>st</sup> half)

### Message from the teachers

Welcome to Year 6! We are all so excited to begin what is sure to be a very memorable year for you all. There is so much to look forward to this year such as the residential trip (PGL), the end of year production, SATs tests in May, House captain roles and a whole heap of interesting new learning along the way. This letter will give you an idea of some of the lessons your child can look forward to during the first half term.

### Our Core Values

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

### Year 6 Staffing

Aspen class teacher: Mr Coren

Beech class teacher: Mrs Lindsay

Year 6 learning support assistants: Mrs Skull and Mrs Thomas

Year 6 Higher Learning Teaching Assistant: Mrs Marks

### Communication

Please feel free to arrange a meeting should you wish to speak to one of the teachers in person. Alternatively, you can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

[aspenclass@harefieldjunior.com](mailto:aspenclass@harefieldjunior.com)

[beechclass@harefieldjunior.com](mailto:beechclass@harefieldjunior.com)

Parent partnership is very important to us, so we have planned a year 6 parent tea/coffee morning in the school hall at 9am on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September where you will be able to meet the year 6 staff and talk to them about the year ahead. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

### Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be emailed to parents every Monday. Please return the homework to your class teacher on the Friday of the same week.

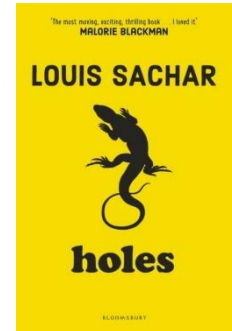
We will be assessing the children's reading ages this week and home reading books, at the appropriate reading level, will be sent home every Monday, starting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Please remember to send these books back in to school each Monday. A new book will not be issued until the previous one has been returned.

## Autumn Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

### English

Year 6 will be using 'Holes' by Louis Sachar as a focus text this half term. We will create 'finding tale' stories based on Holes, where a main character discovers a mysterious item that has unusual consequences. Following this, we will be writing an explanation text linked to Camp Green Lake, the main setting of Holes, where the children will create their own setting and explain its main features.



### Mathematics

In Maths this half term, Year 6 will be consolidating their knowledge of place value up to 10 million, including rounding any integers. Then, we will be using the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to solve calculations including long-multiplication, long-division and word problems e.g.

Three pupils are asked to estimate the answer to the sum  $4243 + 1734$ .

Andrew says, 'To the nearest 100, the answer will be 5900.'

Bilal says, 'To the nearest 50, the answer will be 6000.'

Cheng says, 'To the nearest 10, the answer will be 5970.'

Do you agree with Andrew, Bilal or Cheng?

Can you explain their reasoning?

### Science

The Year 6 Science unit this term is titled 'Everything Changes'. The focus of this unit is on adaptation and evolution: how plants and animals become adapted to thrive within their environments, how mutations and adaptations improve the chances of survival and how this causes the evolution of species over time. We will also explore the lives of some of the scientists important to the theories of adaptation and evolution, e.g. Charles Darwin and Mary Anning.



### History

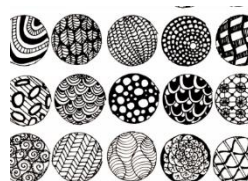
'Impact of War' is the title for the Year 6 History unit this half term. Year 6 will be exploring the key events of the two World Wars with a focus on different groups of people, including life as a soldier, life as a woman and the experiences of evacuee children.

### Art and Design

In Art this term, Year 6 will be practice blending paints to create their own impressionist-style watercolour, based on 'The Japanese Footbridge' by Claude Monet. We will also be looking at the repeating patterns of zentagles and will attempt to create our own zentangles using print techniques.



The Japanese Footbridge



Zentangle Patterns

### **Physical Education**

The two P.E. units in Year 6 this half term are 'Invaders' and 'Boot Camp'. Invaders is the sport unit and the children will have fun developing their coordination, balance and agility through Tag Rugby. Boot Camp is our fitness unit this half term and focuses on circuit-based activities that get the blood pumping and heart racing. Both Year 6 classes will have their PE session on a Friday. Please ensure children come in to school wearing weather appropriate clothing in line with the school uniform. On Wednesday afternoons this half term, Aspen class will be going swimming.

### **Forest School**

This year, Year 6 will take part in Forest School, where each class will spend half a term experiencing the different seasons, whilst partaking in outdoor activities. On Wednesday afternoons, Beech class will be doing Forest School.

### **French**

The Year 6 French unit this half term is 'Let's Visit a French Town'. The children will learn vocabulary to describe different parts of town, school life and where they live.

### **Religious Education**

Year 6 will be learning about humanism this half term, which explores worldviews, types of thinkers, the main beliefs and symbols of humanists. Children will also discuss what living a good life looks like.

### **Music**

We are very fortunate to have a specialist music teacher in school every Friday to teach Year 6 music lessons, focusing on learning to play the ukulele.



### **Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

'Being Me' is the first PSHE unit, where the children will look forward to the year ahead and make appropriate goals that they would like to achieve, and consider the obstacles that may concern them. They will then be introduced to the universal rights of the child and use these discussions to contribute to the creation of a whole class charter.

Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Coren and Mrs Lindsay  
Year 6 teachers