



Year 6 Autumn 2023 Curriculum Information



What we are learning at school

Maths

At the Grove, we follow 'Herts Essentials' and will be covering the following units: number and place value; mental calculation and problem-solving including time; fractions; multiplication and division; statistics. During this first term, we will be focusing heavily on securing and mastering our arithmetic skills. In the build up to SATs, we will be completing weekly arithmetic papers, which will be marked and handed back to the children for self-assessment of what they need to work on. Children always take great pride in their improvements through these weekly tests.

English

To start the term, we will be focusing on complex sentence construction and grammar. This will be taught alongside a whole school text: 'The Black Book of Colours' by Menena Cottin, which explores the world of colours through the perspective of blind people. In coming weeks, we will be using 'The Lost Words' poetry by Robert Macfarlane to inspire vocabulary choices and 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell to create powerful character descriptions. Other texts we will be using include: 'Plasticus Maritimus' by Ana Pego and Isabel Minhos Martins and 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes.

Science

Our Science focus will start on Light.

Big Question: If there was no light, what would we see?

The areas of study will include: recognising that light travels in straight lines and that objects are seen because they give out, or reflect, light into the eye.

We will also investigate how shadows are formed and what factors can affect the size and shape of shadows.

Then we will move on to discovering Living Things and their Habitats with life cycles and classification. Our Big question will be: How and why do scientists classify living things?

How you can help at home

You could visit:

Lincolnsfield Children's centre, reenactment WW1/WW2

Science museum and explore the use and history of electricity.

The colourful sketches and first impressions of South America at the V & A museum in London.

Imperial War Museum, London

De Havilland Aircraft Museum, London Colney

IWM Duxford, Cambridge

Chiltern open Air Museum, Chalfont Saint Giles

North Herts Museum, Hitchin

Read:

Middleworld by K&P Voelkel

The Curse of the Maya by Johnny Pearce & Andy Loneragan

Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo

Armistice Runner By Tom Palmer

Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo

The Silver Hand by Terry Deary

Watch:

World War one on CBBC

War Horse (Movie)

Spy Watch Series on Youtube

History

We will be starting an in-depth exploration into World War One and Two. In the Autumn term, we will specifically be focusing on the First World War and the events that led to it, key figures, and life at this time across the world. Throughout this unit, we will be immersing children in books, writing and experiences from this time.

Geography

Children will be developing **locational knowledge**, using maps to locate the world's countries and continents with a focus on and South America, looking at the key physical features and the human characteristics including major cities.

We will then apply a range of geographical skills to a case study of South America. Focusing on: countries, varying climates, topographical features and current issues surrounding climate change and deforestation.

Art

We will be building on our painting skills from previous years by trying to more accurately mix paints to create very specific tones. Once we have mastered this, we will explore more closely how contrasting and adjacent colours can be used for effect. Combining our art with history, we will analyse the colour choices of artist throughout history and identify trends and styles for particular eras. We will be focusing particularly on the Fauvism movement.

Computing

During the Autumn term, we will be starting the term, like every year, by looking at online safety and how to stay safe while accessing the internet. In year 6, children begin to have a lot more freedom and access to devices and it is vital that they understand and use the tools available to them, that are designed to keep them safe. We will also be exploring coding elements and how they link to creating interactive stories, Binary systems, Networks and their purpose. We will be using the Purple Mash scheme to support lessons.

P.E.

- Invasion games – Netball, Tag Rugby and football
- Dance and Movement

Music

In Music this term, we will continue to build on the understanding of the Ukulele. We will continue to use new chords and learn a range of songs together and in parts. Through these lessons, we will also look at a range of artists and how the use of this instrument has changed.

Talk about:

*Deforestation of the Rainforest
Palm oil and looking at what food contain it
Family members from WW1/2*

Try these websites:

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/mayans/>

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/topics/history/world-war-i/>

<https://trockstars.com/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://login.mathletics.com/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

RE

We will be exploring celebrations and key events in Buddhism and comparing these to our own lives, opinions and belief systems. We will also continue to delve deeper into Christianity and look at sections of the Gospel, religious leaders and ways of communication through prayer and sacred texts.

French

We will continue to use the Rigolo scheme and learn vocabulary for a range of situations including school, time, hobbies and clothing.



Year 6 Autumn 2023 General Information

**PE**

Our PE days are:

Elder: Monday Mornings and Thursday afternoon

Acer: Monday Mornings and Wednesday afternoon

Redwood: Monday Mornings and Thursday afternoon

Children to wear PE kits to school on days when they have a PE lesson. Please remember that no jewellery should be worn on these days. Where new earrings cannot be taken off, they must be taped up at home.

Values

Running through our curriculum will be the 'My Personal Best' values of co-operation, reflection, self-discipline and empathy as well as the school's 3Rs: Responsibility, Resilience and Respect.

Homework expectations

Homework will be handed out on Friday and are due back the following Thursday for marking. Homework that is handed in on time and to good quality, will receive house-points.

Expectation:

- Weekly maths activity on mathematics to recap the learning of the week
- Daily reading recorded in planner: date, pages, book, parent signature
- Evidence of spelling practise on 3 separate days

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