

# Cheddington Combined School

Outline of Spring Term  
2022



Year 6

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. Year 6 is an extremely busy year and we have lots of exciting learning and experiences planned for the class.

### English

In English our writing will be inspired by 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. The book is set in the Industrial Revolution and is a thought provoking story of disadvantage and poverty. We will also learn about the work of Charles Dickens, our writing will cover a range of genres.

In reading we will be further developing comprehension skills (especially inference and identifying the impact of the writers' choices). We will continue to develop our understanding of spelling, punctuation and grammar with weekly spelling tests and lessons learning about the correct use and developing a good understanding of grammatical terminology.

### Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be covering decimals, percentages, algebra, converting units, perimeter, area, volume and ratio. As mentioned, **it is imperative that children are secure on their times tables in Year 6**, and we would encourage you to practise these as much as possible with your child if they are less confident.

### Science

Two Physics units, Electricity and Light, will be covered this term. In Electricity we will learn to build working circuits and how to identify electrical component symbols and how to draw circuit diagrams. In Light we will learn about how we see, how light travels and what makes up white light. To support our Biology learning, we hope to visit Waddesdon Manor's Aviaries to learn about their conservation in action and rare species breeding program. We will also participate in the RSPB's Big Schools' Bird Watch in January. We will be participating in Science Oxford's 'Big Science Event' where pupils will plan and conduct their own investigations which will be written up in the form of a poster and presented to the class. A class winner will be selected to go forward to judging by an external Science Oxford Stem Ambassador judge.

### History

In History we will study the Industrial Revolution as a significant turning point in the History of Britain. We will consider the impact of these changes at both a local and national level and learn about some of the technological changes that created this period of change and upheaval.

We will also learn about the reign of Queen Victoria.

### Geography

Our work in Geography will focus on mapping skills and we will devise simple maps with keys to locate the world's countries. We will also name and locate the counties and cities of the United Kingdom, as we learn more about The Industrial Revolution.

## Design Technology

In DT we will be focusing on 'frame structures', designing, making, testing and evaluating kites. We will also design, make and evaluate a clay pottery vase.

## PE/Games

We will be concentrating on Dance, using working machinery and martial arts as our inspiration; as well as Multi-Skills, Quicksticks Hockey and Tag Rugby. Please make sure that your child has the **correct** kit with them for a PE lesson. PE will take place on Tuesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor) in Spring 1. Both sessions will be outdoor in Spring 2.

I would like to remind you that during PE, for safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and earrings should not be worn. However, if your child cannot remove their own earrings, please supply plasters or tape to cover them up. No jewellery is permitted in school except for a watch and plain stud earrings. Please note that aerosol sprays are not permitted in school.

## Music

In Music we will be exploring a range of music inspired by Benjamin Britten's Friday Afternoon songs. Our focal piece will be 'A New Year Carol' which we will listen to, appraise, learn and perform. We will then hear the same carol performed by a range of choirs and appraise those, making comparisons and identifying key differences. We will share gospel versions of the carol and other Friday Afternoon songs for appraisal and performance.

## RE

In RE we will be considering diversity in religion. We will be studying a range of views, beliefs and traditions of the different denominations within Christianity. We will discuss similarities and differences and explore community harmony.

## Art

In Art we will be studying sculpture and the work of Henry Moore and making 3D cameos inspired by the Victorian Era. Will then move on to painting in an abstract style looking at and imitating the work of Patrick Heron and Patrick Caulfield.

## Computing

Variables in games:

We will explore the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. First, pupils will learn what variables are, and relate them to real-world examples of values that can be set and changed. Pupils will then use variables to create a simulation of a scoreboard. Pupils will experiment with variables in an existing project, then modify them, then they will create their own project.

Spreadsheets:

Children will then be introduced to spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set. They will be taught the importance of

formatting data to support calculations, while also being introduced to formulas and will begin to understand how they can be used to produce calculated data. The children will be taught how to apply formulas that include a range of cells, and apply formulas to multiple cells by duplicating them. They will use spreadsheets to plan an event and answer questions. Finally, they will create graphs and charts, and evaluate their results in comparison to questions asked.

#### Modern Foreign Languages

In French we will be learning vocabulary for the rooms and furniture in the home and classroom instructions. We will revise the vocabulary for family members, jobs and learn how to ask and answer where somebody lives. Additionally, we will use the verbs 'to have' and 'to be'.

#### PSHE

The children will build on prior learning of 'Relationships' learning by thinking about peer pressure and consent, and how to successfully navigate around this. We will also be looking at our role in 'Living in the Wider World' by looking at multi-cultural societies and how we fit into it in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain before progressing to financial matters and how to manage associated risks.

Year 6 is an important year in which to prepare the children for life at secondary school. In order to prepare them as well as possible, we will be continuing to encourage the children to take responsibility for remembering equipment, organising their belongings, doing homework and handing things in on time. Keeping to deadlines and managing homework is probably one of the things that can be the most difficult to deal with when starting secondary school, and we strongly believe that a set routine in Year 6 is an important way in which we can help them achieve a smooth transition to Year 7.

#### Homework

For this term, Year 6 will get the following amount of homework each week:

- 1 piece of English – Spelling homework.
- 1 piece of Maths – MyMaths online.
- We have invested in CPG homework books for maths, arithmetic, reading and grammar. 1 test should be completed for each, weekly.
- 30 minute activity which may be research or a project over a longer period.
- Reading to an adult for at least fifteen minutes three times weekly.
- Practise spellings and times tables during the week.

I am sure that you will understand that this is a guide and depending on the week, alterations may be made. All homework will be recorded by children in their planners and we ask Parents to **sign planners weekly** to indicate they have seen them ready for **Monday morning**.

Homework that is not completed will incur sanctions, as we continue to prepare Year 6 for their transition to Secondary School in September. As stated earlier, we are encouraging them to take more responsibility for their personal organisation and completion of homework tasks.

We appreciate the majority of children are confident in reading by the time they get to Year 6, but it is still important that they read out loud to an adult and spend time discussing the book. The depth of comprehension that children need to be able to use involves complex inference and deduction skills along with being able to pick out specific evidence from the text and commenting on how the author has used specific words for effect. These are skills that we work hard to develop in Year 6, and we encourage parents to help as well, thus ensuring maximum support for your child. If your child is continually reading a specific author or style of books, please encourage them to read a wider range, as this not only helps to develop their reading skills, but hugely improves their writing development and vocabulary skills.

Each child is expected to provide their own equipment needed for a lesson (again, vital for secondary school), so please ensure that they have the correct equipment required in school; handwriting pen (blue ink), pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, glue stick, reading book, planner, PE kit, water bottle.

Please do feel free to contact us if any issues should arise. We would much prefer to deal with a problem at the time, rather than letting it escalate. If your child does have a worry, please would you encourage them to talk to one of us or any adult at school as soon as possible, as dealing with situations straight away is usually much better for all concerned.

We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning and discovery in Year 6.

Mrs Van de Linde, Mrs White, Ms Brooking and Mrs Craft.