

Greenvale Primary School
Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter
Year 6 – FALCONS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new and exciting year.

This curriculum newsletter is written to provide parents with information about what your children will be learning during the term.

Below is a brief summary of the main topics that will be covered this term.

English	<p><u>Floodland</u> Our English work during the first half term will be based around the novel Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. This novel is set in a dystopian future where global warming has caused massive flooding of many parts of the world including the U.K. During the story, the protagonist (Zoe) ventures across the ocean to find her lost parents. This book provides a meaningful link to our first IPC topic. We will be using this novel to stimulate diary writing, persuasive arguments and stories with a purpose.</p> <p><u>Once</u> During the second half term, we will be exploring the novel Once by Morris Gleitzman. This novel, written from the perspective of a Jewish boy (Felix) during the beginning of World War two, approaches some tough topics in a child friendly and sensitive manner. As the children have otherwise not studied World War two, we will be using this opportunity to explore other stories, such as Rose Blanche and The Lion and The Unicorn, and non-fiction texts about the Blitz and key figures, such as Churchill, to put the story in context. We will be using this novel (and other texts) to stimulate explanations, poetry and descriptive narrative.</p>
Mathematics	<p>During this term, we will focus on mastering the number aspects of the mathematics curriculum including the four operations; fractions, decimals and percentages; place value of large numbers, decimals and negative numbers; adding and subtracting negative numbers; and ratio & proportion.</p>
IPC	<p><u>Climate Control:</u> In science, the children will explore the creation of excess CO₂ through the use of fossil fuels and pollution and how this causes global warming. The children will also research sustainable technology including renewable energy sources. In geography, the children will investigate the effects of global warming on the world both through extreme weather and loss of habitat for animals.</p> <p><u>Being Human:</u> In science, this unit will look at the circulatory and respiratory system; the effect of exercise, drugs and alcohol on the human body; inheritance and genes; and the evolution of humans.</p>
ICT	<p>We will be exploring App design and creation this term. This includes exploring the ways apps are developed and designed; designing their own app to appeal to a particular audience; and using software to create a basic version of their app.</p>

PSHE	Good to be me & Getting on and falling out.
RE	Exploring Creation stories from different religions and the Christmas story.
P.E	
Spanish	
Music	Exploring music and songs linked to climate change and the weather.

During the term, it is likely that at some point you will need to get in contact with a member of staff. We ask that you avoid the mornings as these are when we are usually busy preparing the classroom for the day ahead. However, if it is urgent, please do not hesitate to speak to the teaching assistant when they collect the class from the playground in the morning. Please also make use of the class wallets located directly outside the classroom to leave a note for a member of staff.

If you wish to speak with a member of staff about your child, the best time to do this is directly after school. We do however ask that you try to avoid a Wednesday as this our day for staff meetings. Finally, we do provide parents with our email addresses. Please feel free to write an email to us and we will do our best to get back to you promptly. Please note that emails may not necessarily be checked or responded to immediately but will be checked regularly during the week.

Uniform

At Greenvale, we have very high expectations for uniform. If for some reason your child is unable to wear an item of school uniform, please ensure that your child's class teacher is notified on that particular day.

Reading

It is expected that you will read with your children each night. Please discuss the book with them to help to develop their comprehension skills. Children will participate in guided reading sessions whilst at school and can change their home reading book as appropriate.

One of the ways we are encouraging the children to read a wider variety of challenging reads, is through our 11 before 11 award. These books are:

Stormbreaker – Antony Horowitz

Broccoli Boy – Frank Cottrell-Boyce

The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis

Artemis Fowl – Eoin Colfer

Swallows & Amazons – Arthur Ransome

Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson

Scribbleboy – Philip Ridley

Lost Riders – Elizabeth Laird

Silverfin – Charlie Higson

The Wind Singer – William Nicholson

Clockwork – Philip Pullman

Maths

In year 6, it is crucial that children have quick and accurate access to their times tables up to 12x and their respective division facts.

Without an understanding of these key facts, your child will find accessing the maths curriculum extremely difficult. I would therefore ask that you work with us and ensure that these are practised regularly at home.

Please continue to work on these at home with your children. This also applies to those who already have received their gold award.

Homework

Spellings will continue to be issued on a Wednesday and tested each Monday. Homework will also be set on a Wednesday and is expected to be completed and returned the following Monday.

Please note that it is the child's responsibility for this to be completed and that if there is ever any uncertainty, they need to speak to a member of staff so that we are able to discuss this with them.

Stars are rewarded for the effort that each child has put into their homework. At the end of each half term, the children with the highest number of stars will receive a certificate and will also be named on the school newsletter.

PE

PE is on a Thursday afternoon and Trampolining is on a Tuesday afternoon.

For both of these sessions long hair must be tied up and earrings must be removed.

If for some reason your child is unable to partake in P.E, parents will have to provide a note explaining the reasons as to why.

Trips

Please note that there may be an opportunity for parents to attend a visit along with the class at some point during the year. As this can often be quite popular, names will be placed into a hat and chosen by the children.

Volunteers

At Greenvale, we are incredibly lucky to have so many parents and volunteers who are able to give up so much time to help out in class. If you are able to help out in class, please get in contact via email so that a suitable time can be arranged.

Items needed

Please can you continue to send your children in with boxes of tissues for use within class. We would also appreciate any donations of recyclable items (toilet rolls, cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, shoe boxes, etc).

Yours sincerely,

Mr Crow

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