



# ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Year 6 Newsletter

### Summer Term 1

We hope you have all had an enjoyable Easter holiday and that your children have had plenty of rest and are ready for the busy and exciting Summer Term!

Last half term, we really enjoyed being part of the Lenten project and raising money—Year 6 did a fantastic job. We are now very much on the countdown in Year 6 for a very busy few weeks ahead. Our main focus will, of course initially, be the SATs. The children are well-practised with the sample papers, all of which have been sent home to support revision.

We are also very much looking forward to our fantastic trip to Drayton Manor, which will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to celebrate all of their hard work, enjoy time together, and create lasting memories.

#### Reading

Throughout the term, we will continue our whole-class reading sessions, exploring a range of texts together. Our focus will be on developing VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Summary) while also examining the author's intent. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home, as this will greatly support their comprehension and writing skills.

#### Writing

This half term, Year 6 will continue exploring *Holes* by Louis Sachar – a gripping novel that delves into themes of crime, punishment, and the pursuit of truth. The story follows Stanley Yelnats, a boy who is wrongly sent to a boys' detention centre, where the inmates are forced to dig endless holes in the desert. But is there more to this unusual punishment than meets the eye?

All of our writing will be inspired by *Holes*, with children stepping into the shoes of different characters and writing from their perspectives. Pupils will also develop their persuasive skills by writing a compelling prospectus for Camp Green Lake—though whether it is somewhere parents would want to send their children is another question! They will also explore Camp Green Lake further by writing a persuasive letter from Stanley, convincing his parents that he is having the best time there.

Alongside this, pupils will continue revising key grammar concepts in preparation for their SATs.

#### Maths

In the final few weeks before SATs, we will revisit all calculations involving the four operations. They will rehearse solving various problems across key domains which we have covered using appropriate methods in order to show working out clearly. We will also continue to focus on the fluency with arithmetic which will look at both mental and written strategies. Please continue to support your child in these areas.

#### Y6 SAT Dates

**Monday 11th May** – Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation Paper 1 and Spelling Paper 2

**Tuesday 12th May** – Reading Paper

**Wednesday 13th May** – Maths Arithmetic Paper and Maths Reasoning Paper 2

**Thursday 14th May** – Maths Reasoning Paper 3



# curriculum

## Curriculum Overview

This half term, we will continue our study of the Mayans, focusing on their society and the structures within their communities. The children will then explore the role of Mayan warriors, comparing them to soldiers and warriors from other historical periods.

We will also delve into Mayan entertainment, discovering the games, rituals, and cultural activities that played a significant role in their daily lives. To conclude the unit, the children will undertake a self-directed research project, allowing them to explore an aspect of Mayan civilization that interests them the most.

**Science** we will be focusing on living things and their habitats. This will include classification of micro organisms, animals and plants and providing reasons for this using our understanding of characteristics.

**R.E.** unit this half term is Kingdom of God. We will explore the theme of forgiveness and the children will look at the question: What kind of a king is Jesus?

**D/T** unit this half term is 'Come Dine With Me'. The children will develop a three-course menu focused on three key ingredients, as part of a paired challenge to develop the best class recipes. They will explore each key ingredient's farm to fork process.

**PSHE** our Jigsaw topic will be 'Relationships'. This will look at many aspects including: mental health, love and loss, power and control and using technology responsibly and safely. We will also be focusing on transition to secondary schools

**French** unit will focus on learning the vocabulary to name different types of jobs. Children will have a go at both asking questions and responding in French.

**Computing: Year 6** will be developing their Python coding skills by exploring loops, including nested loops, to create designs and modify programs. They will also learn how to use random numbers, decompose algorithms, and annotate their code to demonstrate understanding.

**P.E:** will focus on badminton during the afternoon, please ensure that children have their outdoor kits in school.

## Y6 Production

This half term, we will be sharing with the children which Production we will be doing for the end of the year. With this in mind, we have asked children to think about what type of part they would like to play: speaking and singing, speaking only or acting. Auditions will take place at lunchtime on Monday 18th May. Children are to come prepared with a song and/or extract from a book to read aloud to showcase their voice.

We look forward to continuing to work with you this busy half term, should you have any queries, please contact the Year 6 Team.

## DIARY DATES

Mon 13th April

School Open

w/b 20th April

Stephen Lawrence  
Week in school

Fri 24th May

Stephen Lawrence  
Visit

Mon 4th May

May bank holiday

## SAT Dates

Mon 11th May

GPS Papers

Tues 12th May

Reading Paper

Wed 13th May

Arithmetic and  
Reasoning Papers

Thurs 14th May

Reasoning Paper

Fri 15th May

Drayton Manor

Fri 22nd May

School closes for  
half term

Mon 1st June

Re-opens for Sum-  
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