

## Year 6

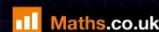
### Autumn 1 Newsletter

#### What do I need to bring and know?

<b>Monday</b>	I need to bring my reading book and reading record.	I need to bring a water bottle with plain water only.	I have PE today with Mr Kelly.	My new homework will be available today before 3.00pm.	My spelling homework will be available today before 3.00pm.
<b>Tuesday</b>	I need to bring my reading book and reading record.	I need to bring a water bottle with plain water only.			
<b>Wednesday</b>	I need to bring my reading book and reading record.	I need to bring a water bottle with plain water only.	I have PE today with Team Theme.		
<b>Thursday</b>	I need to bring my reading book and reading record.	I need to bring a water bottle with plain water only.	I need to bring my PE kit as I have PE with Team Theme.		
<b>Friday</b>	I need to bring my reading book and reading record.	I need to bring a water bottle with plain water only.	My homework must be completed by 9.00am today.	My spellings of the week will be assessed today in class.	

### Supporting Your Child with Homework

We kindly ask for your support in encouraging your child to complete their homework regularly. Homework is a vital part of their education as it reinforces good habits and helps prepare them for adult life. All of the homework we set is directly linked to what we have been learning in class that week, providing

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your child with the opportunity to practise and apply the skills and knowledge they've gained.

One of the key benefits of the homework I use is that it provides immediate feedback. This allows your child to see where they have been successful and where they might need to improve right away, keeping the learning fresh and impactful.

For children who may have difficulty accessing their homework at home, we offer a Homework Club. Regular attendance at this club is important, so please let me know if your child needs to attend.

By supporting your child in completing their homework, either at home or through our Homework Club, you are helping them build the discipline and responsibility they need to succeed.

**Optional Homework Challenge** In addition to the weekly homework, I will invite the children to complete a half-termly project which is based around one of our topics. This is the first half-term's challenge:

### **Research Your Family Tree**

As part of our history topic on the census, I would like to challenge the class to an optional homework project: researching their family tree. Children are encouraged to explore their family history and present their findings in any format they choose. This could be an oral presentation, a poster, a PowerPoint, a film, or a written project that includes interesting facts they've learned about their family members.

There is no need to subscribe to websites; instead, children can speak to and interview family members to gather information. Any work submitted will be proudly displayed in school and shared with Mrs. Cornwell.

### **Spellings**

Children have four spelling lessons per week. Their spellings of the week will be uploaded each Monday for them to practise. We have recently purchased a new spelling scheme called Spelling



Shed. This works in a similar way to TT Rockstars, particularly in how they engage children in learning through interactive practice. Both programs offer different levels of difficulty and challenges that adapt to the children's ability. This personalisation helps ensure that children are

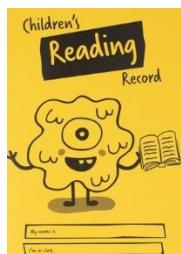
working at an appropriate level and can see their progress over time. As such, children will receive a username and password so that they can log in at home and access the games.

Spellings will be assessed each Friday.

**Please note – homework and spelling tasks will be assigned from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.**

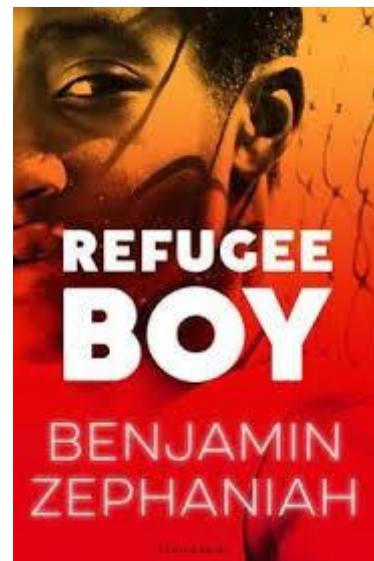
### **The Importance of Reading**

Reading is a crucial skill that plays a significant role in your child's success, both academically and beyond. I encourage all children to read at least three times per week at home, whether it's with you or independently. After reading, they should write a sentence summarising what happened in the pages they read. Regular reading not only builds stamina but also enhances vocabulary, which is essential for understanding and engaging with the world around us. By fostering a love of reading, we can help your child develop the skills they need for lifelong success.



### **Autumn 1 Book: *Refugee Boy* by Benjamin Zephaniah**

This term, we will be reading *Refugee Boy* by Benjamin Zephaniah. The story follows Alem, a 14-year-old boy from Ethiopia, who is suddenly abandoned in London by his father. Alem's father leaves him there in hopes of keeping him safe from the conflict in his home country. Alone in a new city, Alem must navigate life in a foreign country while dealing with the challenges of being a refugee. The book explores themes of identity, belonging and resilience, offering a powerful and moving perspective on the refugee experience.



### **Curriculum Snapshot**

Below is a summary of some subjects being taught this half term. For an overview of the whole curriculum, please see the Year 6 class page on the school website.

<p><b>History</b>  <b>What does the census tell us about our local area?</b></p> 	<p>Investigating local history during the Victorian period, children will carry out an enquiry using the census, parish register and factory records. They will learn about the changes to the family over a period of time and suggest reasons for these changes, linking them to national events.</p> <p>Planning their own historical enquiry, children will also research a local family.</p>
<p><b>Art – 2D drawing to 3D making</b></p> 	<p>Children will explore drawing techniques such as grid drawing, using negative space and mark making (including tonal value), before transforming their drawings into sculpture. Watch this space for an invitation to come into school to appreciate the children's finished sculptures.</p>
<p><b>French – French sport and the Olympics</b></p> 	<p>Children will construct simple sentences to say whether they like a sport or not. They will learn identify some of the French country words using cognates and near cognates. Use the correct form of 'aller' and the correct preposition in most cases in written exercises.</p> <p>Understand and accurately pronounce most words and phrases about sports and write an interview article in French about their Olympic sport.</p>
<p><b>PSHE – How can we keep healthy as we grow?</b></p> 	<p>Children will learn about looking after their physical and mental health; growing up; becoming independent and taking more responsibility.</p>
<p><b>Music – Dynamics, Pitch and Texture</b></p> 	<p>Children will discuss orchestral sounds using varied vocabulary, exploring pitch, dynamics and texture through improvisation. They'll take turns conducting and following, create graphic scores to represent sounds and respond to musical changes with increasing awareness and control.</p>
<p><b>Science - Electricity</b></p> 	<p>Children will associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit; compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches; and use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram</p>

**Key dates (new events will be communicated via Class Dojo)**

- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Meet the teacher presentation (3pm, Y6 classroom)
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Macmillan Coffee Morning (school hall – time to be confirmed)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – KS2 School Disco (5pm – 6pm)
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November (Parents' Evening 3pm-6pm, school hall)
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair (3.20-5pm, school hall)
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas performance (2pm and 5pm, school hall)
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Y5 and Y6 Christmas party