

Viaduct Federation of Schools

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to a brand new school year – the last at Bushfield! We have already started to get to know your children in our new classes and they are settling into life in Year 6 well. We have an exciting Autumn Term planned for Year 6, during which our topic will be 'WW2'. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher in September's parent consultation meetings, but if any issues arise in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact school and arrange an appointment.

Subject Overviews

English

Initially, we will focus on the foundations of writing - grammar and punctuation - to ensure all children have the building blocks of being a successful writer focusing on sentence structure and punctuation. After this, we will be inspired by our reading of War Horse to write an exciting suspense narrative.

Maths

Initially, we will concentrate on reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit. We will then apply this to solve number and practical problems. Following this, we will move on to a calculation focus where children will learn to solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why. We will also look at using estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, an appropriate degree of accuracy.

Science

The first part of the Autumn term will see us focus on the topic of 'Light' which will be linked to our WW2 theme through making periscopes.

Computing

We will build upon previous knowledge on coding by using the programme 'Scratch'. We will be looking at how to sequence events and create interactive algorithms.

History

The topic for the autumn is 'World War II'. During this topic, the children will learn about life on the home-front, especially for evacuees and the experience of the Blitz during the Battle of Britain. We will learn about the role of our local area in the war through finding out about Bletchley Park. We will end the topic with an enrichment afternoon to celebrate VE day in style with an opportunity to dress up and try ration book recipes.

Design Technology (DT)

Our focus of DT this half term will be sewing. Based on the WW2 approach of 'Make do and mend', the children will be designing and making their own pattern for a piece of clothing, before using their skills to assemble and decorate it.

PSHE

Our first unit explores economic wellbeing and online financial harms – including targeted advertising and other influences on online spending.

PE & Games

Children will have the opportunity to develop co-ordination abilities and skills in a range of competitive and racquet sports this half term including badminton, basketball and handball.

***PE Kit Reminder*:** Children are to come in wearing their PE kit on the days when they have PE (Tuesdays and Fridays).

Music

Linking to WW2, we will look at the role of music, for example, Glenn Miller. We will learn specific musical vocabulary to be able to describe music and instruments. After half term, we will look at music as a characterisation tool by linking our work to a traditional tale structure—Peter and the Wolf. We will look at composition and how an orchestra can be used to build certain feelings and effects.

French

The first half term will focus on learning vocabulary to describe the weather on a particular day and making a simple weather forecast. The second half term we will learn clothing words and link to weather to re-construct the story of "Quel temps fait-il, Berthe?".

Assessment

At the end of the term, the children will complete a set of assessment papers, which includes maths, reading, grammar, spelling and writing assessments. We use the results to inform our planning and to identify children who need additional support. We also report the results to you at Parents' Evening in spring so you can see the progress your child is making.

Be The Best You Can Be

Throughout the half term, we will look at zone of regulation, regulating emotions, circle of control, elements of a skilful learner and have the opportunity to build connections across the year groups and with teachers.

Homework

Reading

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library.

Maths

The children should practise their times tables regularly throughout the week (equating to 10 minutes per day). They can use the website www.ttrockstars.com.

Spellings

The children will still receive new spellings on a Monday which will be stuck in their spelling books. They should regularly practise them throughout the week and can use www.edshed.com to access games.

Topic

This term your child will be set a homework linked to our learning across the curriculum. Thank you for your support with this. Further details will follow.

Drinks & Snacks

Please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at break time and provide a named water bottle.

Year group info- *pictures below from left to right:*

- **Class Teachers:** Miss Campbell (Head of Year), Mrs Robertson, Mr Targett
- **Set Teachers:**, Mrs Shiers, Mrs Khimji
- **Teaching Assistants:**





Items to remember

- Practise times tables for 10 minutes per day.
- Spellings - practise spellings regularly throughout the week.
- Reading – read for 10 minutes each day
- PE Kit – children are to come in their kit on the days they have PE (Tuesdays and Fridays) and should have suitable kit for the time of vear.

Useful websites

- www.ttrockstars.com—for times tables
- www.edshed.com—for spelling practice through games
- https://www.mymaths.co.uk/
- www.linguafun.eu—for French

Your children have logins for both of these websites. If you don't have them, we can remind you of the details.

Upcoming Events

17th September 3:20pm – Residential Trip Information Evening

8th October – Trip to RAF London

29th September & 30th September– Parents' Evening

22nd October - Hallowe'en Disco

Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

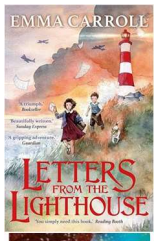
We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!

Like us on facebook

Be the best you can be.



Suggested Books – a range of fiction and non-fiction linked to the topics and themes of the half term should your child wish to read further or need inspiration on what to read next!



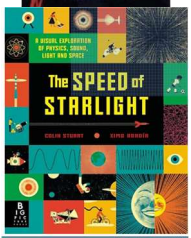
This highly recommended chapter book is an excellent text for encapsulating experiences of World War II from the viewpoint of children. It tells the moving story of Olive and her brother Cliff as they leave the heavily bombed streets of London and become evacuees on the coast of Devon, sent to live with an enigmatic lighthouse keeper. Soon Olive finds herself caught up in a dark mystery linking the disappearance of her sister with a strangely coded message.



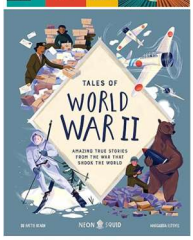
Full of adventure, mythical creatures and character growth, the story follows a boy's adventures when he discovers a cluster of magical islands on which all sorts of mythical creatures are really alive. He teams up with a local girl on a magical quest to save the islands. Katherine Rundell is a fabulous writer for Year 6s and with her repertoire of books, there will be plenty more books to delve into throughout the year!



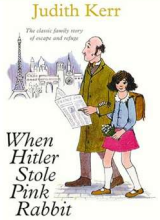
Similar in theme to our reading text for the half term, this is a multi-award-winning story about the incredible friendship between a young boy and a silverback gorilla in the Second World War, inspired by a true story.



Impressive design meets exciting content in this physics title that will truly captivate and inspire. Designed to present physics in a totally new light, this science book explores the topics of physics, light and sound alongside incredible artwork from surrealist artist Ximo Abadía. Visualise sonar sound, discover the speed of light and understand basic quantum physics with easy to understand, engaging text by acclaimed science writer Colin Stuart.



Beautifully illustrated and featuring stories from all over the world, Tales of World War II also contains jaw-dropping tales including the dog used to find survivors in the London Blitz, the champion cyclist who carried secret messages to help Jews escape the Nazis, and the bear who was recruited by the Polish army!
Interspersed throughout the stories are pages explaining the key events of the war – from Pearl Harbor and Dunkirk to D-Day and the Holocaust



A beloved classic that provides an unforgettable introduction to the real-life impact of the war. It tells the story of a Jewish family escaping Germany in the days before the Second World War which start a huge adventure, sometimes frightening, very often funny and always exciting.

Track My Read – Helping children to love reading!

Reading for pleasure – whether reading on their own or sharing a story – is one of the best ways a child can spend their time.

Research shows that:

- Reading each day can help children improve in all their school subjects
- Reading for just 6 minutes a day can reduce stress by 68%
- Children who read for pleasure are more likely to do well at GCSEs

Choosing to read provides all sorts of benefits – it's comforting, relaxing, reduces anxiety, builds empathy and understanding and aids learning... but above all it's fun!

Track My Read is a new tool from national charity, Read for Good, designed to encourage pupils to read regularly and to help schools understand more about what and how pupils want to read.

We've set our pupils a reading challenge as a group – to read a certain number of minutes – and we'd like your child to participate. Their teacher will see your child's responses, but no-one else will.

Your child will be given a unique URL link with a few short questions to complete each time they've spent some time reading:

- Go to the unique URL link provided by the school (on any device with internet access)
- Bookmark or save the link so that they can easily use the link again and again
- They must login with their username and passcode to get to their Dashboard
- To log their Reading Minutes, press the orange **Log a new read** and enter the information.
- Then just press **Submit.**
- Now they will reach their own **'Celebration Page'**, showing their progress and with achievement badges and time rewards.