



Comet Class Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your family have had a lovely summer break. It was so lovely to be able to welcome the children back to school and hear all about their summer. They have settled into Year 6 wonderfully and I am very proud of how they have returned with such a 'thirst for learning' at the start of a really important year.

This year, we will have the fantastic support of our TAs Mrs Brown and Mr Chambers in Comet Class. The children already have a great relationship with them and I'm both confident and excited that we are going to have a fantastic year!

On Friday's, the children will be taught by Mr Cartledge, who is covering classes throughout the year during teacher planning, preparation, and assessment (PPA) and leadership time.

Enquiry

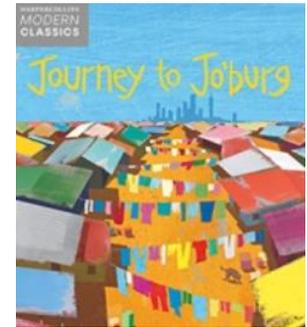
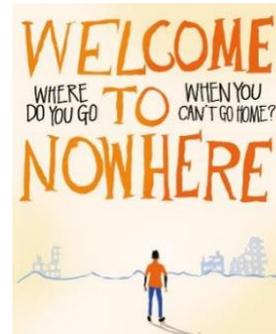
This term, we will be exploring the question 'Is the destination the end of the journey?'. Our enquiry project has Geography as it's driver, where we will be learning all about the refugee crisis with a focus on Syria. We want the children to understand that war is not a historical event and still happens across the world today. Children will begin to understand the direct impact of war on refugees and the indirect impact on our community and surrounding area.

English

This term our first book for English will be a powerful and thought-provoking book: *Welcome to Nowhere* by Elizabeth Laird. The main character Omar, a 12-year-old boy from Syria, experiences war first hand and must flee Syria with his family in a fight for survival. This term, we will be writing a poem, a setting description, a biography and a balanced argument.

Reading

During whole class guided reading, we will be focusing on a range of different reading skills such as inference, retrieval and



summarising, across a range of different books. To begin with we will be reading 'Journey to Joburg' by Beverley Naidoo.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be assessing each child to ensure they are making good progress with their reading. We will be providing new reading folders with reading diaries and new books. At home, please ensure your child reads each day for 15 minutes to support their learning in school. Year 6's can write in their own reading diary to keep a track of their reading. Please ensure that there are a minimum of 3 reading entries per week in their diaries. If children read 5 or more times a week, they will earn Class Dojos.

Book Returns

There have been a number of books that have been taken home but not returned last year across school. These include banded books and library books. Please could you check at home to see if you have any school books and return them as soon as possible. Thank you!

Maths

To start this half term off in Maths, we will begin by looking at the children's knowledge of number and place value. We will then progress to addition, subtract, multiplication, division and fractions. These are some of the small steps that we will be looking at to start off our maths learning in Year 6:

Step 1	Numbers to 1,000,000
Step 2	Numbers to 10,000,000
Step 3	Read and write numbers to 10,000,000
Step 4	Powers of 10
Step 5	Number line to 10,000,000
Step 6	Compare and order any integers
Step 7	Round any integer
Step 8	Negative numbers

Science

In Autumn 1, we will be studying 'Evolution and Inheritance' where we will be learning about how life has evolved over time and how animals and humans adapt to their environment and inherit and acquire specific characteristics.

RE

During Autumn term, we will be focusing on the question 'What will make Nottingham City and County a more tolerant and respectful place?'. We will be analysing and finding out more about the many religions that make our multi-cultural city an amazing place to live in.

Music

Each Thursday morning, we are lucky enough to have specialist music teachers from Inspire coming in to teach the children. Inspire will deliver the National Curriculum objectives for music through these lessons and the children will learn a variety of musical knowledge from pitch, tone, beat and so on.

Computing

This term we will begin our ICT lessons with internet safety. We will then progress to our 'Computing systems and networks – Communication' unit.

PSHE

We will be using the scheme SCARF for PSHE this year. Autumn 1 & 2 will be focusing on 'Me & My Relationships' and 'Valuing Difference'. We will be looking at friendships, families and close positive relationships, safe relationships, community and managing hurtful behaviours and bullying.

SPANISH

Year 6 will take part in Spanish lessons with Señor Fabra where they will learn key Spanish words and phrases whilst exploring a Spanish town.

ART

This term, Year 6 will be recreating the destruction of a Syrian city through the use of stop motion animation with a focus on artists Jackson Pollock & Bissane Al Charif.

PE

We will have our sports specialist teacher in on a Friday to teach PE. Year 6 will focus on:

Autumn 1: Netball and Cricket

Autumn 2: Dance

General Classroom Notices

School bags and Water Bottles

Please send your child to school each day with their school bag. This helps the children to remember to take things to and from school such as water bottles, jumpers, cardigans and their reading folders.

PE

PE is on a Friday this year. Please can you ensure that you send your child into school wearing their PE kit as this helps to maximise their PE time. During Autumn term 1, Year 6 have double PE on a Friday as they will also be taking part in Nottinghamshire Cricket lessons.

Homework

The children will be set one piece of spelling homework each week and one piece of maths homework. Both will be set on a Thursday and due back in on a Thursday. All homework will be based on their in-school learning and the children will be tested on their spellings on a Thursday.

Key Dates

22nd September: INSET Day
29th September: Non uniform day for MacMillan Cancer Support
2nd October: Black History Month
18th October: Whole school vaccinations
8th November: Individual school photos
13th November: Anti-bullying Week – 'Odd Socks Day'
17th November: Non uniform day - Children in Need
21st-22nd November: Parents meetings
8th December: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
14th December: Nottingham Playhouse Pantomime visit
19th December: Year 5/6 Carol Concert
22nd December: Non uniform day

If you have any questions, please come and speak to me in the morning or at the end of the day. If you need a longer chat, then please feel free to book an appointment at the office. I am really looking forward to working closely with you this year to

support your child in making every day count!

Mr Ashton