

Year 6 Spring 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Newcastle and Exeter University have had an exciting term carrying out a historical study of the Roman Invasion of Britain. The highlight of the term so far has Shakespeares Schools Festival where the children put on a wonderful performance of 'Twelfth Night'. The theme we will be following during the next half term is 'Darwin's Delights,' in which we will be studying Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution.

Darwin's Delights



In Year 6, there will be a strong focus on reading, to improve vocabulary next term. We will be reading the terrific text 'Skellig' by David Almond.

<p>English</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at short stories and their key features • Looking at what makes a good short story. • Looking at autobiographies and their key features. • Exploring discussion texts and their key features. .
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at the four mathematical operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication & division) • Applying the four operations to decimal numbers, percentages and fractions • Looking at reasoning questions and understanding mathematic vocabulary used in test questions.
<p>Science</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at animals and humans in relation to evolution • Learning about Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. • Looking at how various animal / human features have evolved over millions of years.
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning through fieldwork and research • Exploring the effects that rivers have on the landscape. • Looking at the components of the water cycle. • Studying the characteristics of a river system in other parts of the world.
<p>Music</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring tempo, texture, structure, duration and appropriate musical notation. • Building an understanding of musical composition. • Organising and manipulating ideas with musical structures. • Listening to music with attention to detail and recalling sounds with increasing musical memory.

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<p>P.E</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing our techniques in gymnastics. • Developing flexibility, strength, control and balance. • exploring gymnastic sequences
<p>I.C.T and Computing</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring computer networks including the internet and how they can provide multiple services. • Learning how to use technology safely.
<p>R.E</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on the different views of creation • Comparing and contrasting the common themes within creation stories • Discussing important issues about the environment.
<p>P.S.H.E and Citizenship</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussing the people within our community • Discussing gangs and how to stay safe • Exploring the effects of violence in the community
<p>Art</p> 	<p>We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving mastery of art and developing art and design techniques • Exploring the rural and/ or urban landscape as a starting point for two-dimensional work • Recording observations through drawing and photography • using shape, form, space, colour, texture and pattern to develop and communicate their ideas in a painting

Here are some ways that you can help your child at home:

- Ensure your child is reading daily for at least 20minutes.
- Read with your child and ask them questions about the text they have read to test their understanding.
- Ensure your child is understanding new words they come across; ensuring access to a dictionary or online dictionary will help with this.
- Ensure your child is completing the CPG books in preparation for their SATs.
- Please support your child to complete their homework and hand it in on time. Homework is always due on a Tuesday.
- Help your child learn their multiplication tables by regularly practising with them at home, in the car or any spare time you have. If they know their tables really well, test them on division facts – they need to know both.

Other books they might enjoy that link to their topic are:

Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith by Deborah Heiligman

Charles Darwin published *The Origin of Species*, his revolutionary tract on evolution and the fundamental ideas involved, in 1859. Nearly 150 years later, the theory of evolution continues to create tension between the scientific and religious communities. This same debate raged within Darwin himself, and played an important part in his marriage: his wife, Emma, was quite religious, and her faith gave Charles a lot to think about as he worked on a theory that continues to spark intense debates.

Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She soon discovers an exotic world bursting with new experiences.

Wishing all our families a relaxing Christmas break and we look forward to the children returning in the New Year.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

The Year 6 Team