**Curriculum Newsletter P6 Term I**

Our World Around Us [WAU] theme for Term 1 is:

‘Journeys’

 This term our studies will explore the theme of ‘Journeys’. The children will have opportunities to engage in a variety of active learning experiences across a range of areas of learning. Our topic of journeys will involve:

**Science & Geography**:

* Exploring the journey of a raindrop and recreating the water cycle in a glass bowl
* A study of the upper, middle and lower course of a river, locating the longest rivers in the British Isles and the world on a map.
* Researching a world river of our choice.
* Experimenting – Evaporation - does the size & shape of a container affect the speed of evaporation?

 Does the height of a ramp affect the distance a car travels?

 Does the weight of a car affect the distance it will travel?

 Does the surface of a ramp affect the speed and distance a car travels?

**History**:

* Researching the Vikings, their expeditions and their discoveries.
* Using maps to locate countries they travelled from and to.
* Exploring their lifestyle, customs, their homes and longships.

**The Arts** :

* Water cycle mobiles and collage work.
* Illustrating the features of various sections of a river.
* Responding to and creating a piece of music related to a section of the river or its journey.
* Designing Viking helmets, jewellery and weapons.

Included in themed work are creative activities, simple science investigations, activities which explore our environment and activities which use information technology.

**What else is happening in the curriculum?**

**ICT**: Children will use ICT for a range of purposes including word processing of written material, as a research tool and as a method of collating/ presenting information. Children will use Excel to produce and create a leaflet advertising a famous river.

**MATHS**: Year 6 will focus on a range of Mental Maths Strategies this term such as partitioning and reordering. Children will be working on place value and the partitioning of numbers with 5 and 6 digits. They will revise the addition and subtraction of TH H T U and multiplying of 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers by a single digit. Long multiplication will be introduced and the children will also work on prime, square, cubed and triangular numbers. They will revise and consolidate analogue and digital time and explore working out time durations. The children will also begin working on the 24-hour clock.

**Literacy:**

Our Guided Reading lesson will take place on a Thursday. It is advised that your child gives priority to this book over the weekend. The children have completed their Star Accelerated Reading quiz and have begun working on the programme. The children will be shown their individual progress in their AR Star quiz and are encouraged to complete an AR quiz at least once a week depending on the length of their chosen book. Your support is a key element in ensuring that your child benefits from taking part in the AR programme.

You can support your child by:

* Knowing what level your child is reading and how they are performing in their tests based on each book. (This is at the back of your child’s homework diary.)
* Ensuring there is time each day at home for your child to read their AR book.
* Reminding your child to take their books to and from school each day (there will be quiet reading sessions during school and books need to be brought to school every day).

There will be an emphasis on good presentation of work this term(dating work, ruling a margin, underlining and using neat handwriting where possible). I will encourage Primary Six to practise this at home. I would appreciate it if all homework could be checked and signed. Thank you!

**PE Lessons:** For this term PE will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday. They will require full PE gear on Thursdays only to change into. The children will wear their uniform to school and their PE kit home on that day. Our ‘Daily Mile’ will continue this year and will take place after lunch time.

**What’s going on?**

**Classroom Rules:**

Year 6 have worked hard in groups to devise a set of classroom rules to create a positive learning environment. The children ranked these in order of importance and signed a ‘contract’ agreeing to keep their rules. Our classroom rules are included on the reverse of this sheet.

**Year 6 Homework timetable is as follows:**

**Mon night** – Maths

**Tues night** – Spelling Exercises

**Wed night** – Online homework – Teams (fortnightly) & Maths

**Thurs night** – Comprehension

**Mathletics activities will be set weekly.**

The children will be expected to learn their weekly spellings and tables every night. There will be no written homework at weekends, however the children are given their Guided Reading book on a Friday and will be encouraged to read this over the weekend.

