



September 2024

**Mingham Junior
School**

Year 6 Curriculum Letter

Welcome to Year 6!

We are so excited to welcome you all back to year 6! It is so lovely to see everyone and we have already had so much fun in our new classes.

English

Fairy tales are cute and cuddly, right? Not any more. During writing this term, the children will be twisting well-known fairy tales into alternative versions from different viewpoints. This will all start with the 'true story' of the Big Bad Wolf. In our writing lessons, we will be concentrating on surprising our reading audience using a range of effective writing techniques. Who says fairy tales have to have a happy ending?

We're in the final stage of junior school life and it is important we read a range of fiction and non-fiction. All of our writing units will be based around inspirational texts and we hope that we can continue to develop a love of reading.

Maths

The maths game levels up in year 6! We will cover all of the curriculum we have previously learnt plus the extra bits we need to know in order to be ready for secondary school. This term, in order to support our problem solving skills, we will be delving into place value and the real value of numbers. Additionally, we will be securing mental and written methods for all 4 operations.

As part of our problem solving, we will need to be able to work with fractions and decimals as well as converting between different units of measurement.

Guided Reading

Throughout the autumn term, year 6 will be reading the picture book *Jemmy Button*, followed by *Stormbreaker* and *Holes*. In each

unit, we will focus on the year 6 key skills, such as inference and comprehension through a variety of engaging tasks.

Science

Over the term, we will be exploring light and answering our big question 'Why does my shadow change length?'. We will start by exploring how light travels and how it behaves when it hits an object. This will then lead into learning about how animals see before applying our understanding of light at the end with an investigation at the end of the half term.

History and Geography

To kick start our geography topic, don't forget your gloves and scarves as we follow in the footsteps of Ernest Shackleton and head for Antarctica. What does this icy wasteland have to offer?

After half term, in history we will be exploring Ancient Greece. In particular, we will be investigating what made the Athenians such a strong army and learning about the legendary Battle of Marathon.

Other foundation subjects

Our afternoons are the busiest time of the day; from animating our own cartoon characters to learning about our rights and responsibilities, there is something for everyone.

Art: Sculpture

DT: Food

R.E: Peace

PDL: Rights and respecting education and the law

Music: African percussion

P.E. Fitness/tennis

Computing: Animated cartoon character GIF

Year 6 staff:

Mr O'Connor - Willow teacher

Mrs Emery - Chestnut teacher

Mrs Markhan - Year 6 TA

Mrs Morris - Year 6 TA

Mrs Bourne - Year 6 TA

Mr Page - Year 6 TA

Miss Roberts - Year 6 TA

Home Learning

Home learning will again consist of Times Table Rock Stars practise (2x10mins+), Mental calculation practise on Numbots (2x10mins+) Access to these sites are available through the following link:

<https://minghamjunior.co.uk/websites-for-learning>

Your children will also be asked to read at least 5 times a week. In encouraging children to take responsibility for their learning and to prepare them for secondary school, reading logs can be completed by children in year 6 themselves, rather than being signed by an adult.

Spellings are available online to practise through Spelling Frame.

A quick thank you...

We would like to say a really big thank you to all of our parents, carers and pupils for such a successful start to the term.

Key Events & Dates for Year 6

PE: Mondays and Thursdays
(P.E. kits to be kept in school)

Home learning due: Thursday

Home learning set: Friday

Meet the teachers: Tuesday 10th Sept

Half term: 28.10.24– 1.11.24

Parents' Evenings 4.11.24 & 6.11.24

INSET day: 25.10.24

School trip: Chestnut 15.10.24

School trip: Willow 16.10.24

Willow class assembly: 22. 11.24

Individual photos: 2.2.24

Last day of term: 20.12.24