



## Year 6 Newsletter Autumn Term

### 'Eco Warriors' – How can we defeat the enemy?

Welcome to Year 6! We hope you have had an enjoyable summer and a good rest. We are really looking forward to working with your children this year and have planned some exciting learning opportunities and trips. We will be starting with our topic called 'Eco Warriors' in which we will be considering whether renewable energy can help protect and save our planet. Our science this term is all about space. The children will become Space Cadets in order to answer a series of questions all about the universe. Year 6 is traditionally the year of SATs, which is planned to take place the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May. More details will follow.

We are looking forward to teaching and guiding your children through a thoroughly enjoyable and memorable year! We are very much hoping that the traditional Castleton residential trip will be able to make a comeback this year as this is definitely one of the Orchard School highlights. Watch this space!

#### In Literacy:

In Literacy, we will be writing persuasive speeches in a bid to be elected as one of this year's House Captains; a much sought after role! After that, we will be looking at how authors use personification to bring inanimate objects to life. In the 'voice' of David Attenborough, we will have fun creating our own 'mockumentaries'. Our class reader this term is, 'How to save the world with a chicken and an egg.' We will be finishing the term by writing environmental poems.

#### In Maths:

In Maths, we will continue to focus on fluency in number, reasoning with number and word problems within the different areas of maths. Continuing on from Year 5, we will work on developing the use of efficient methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and will use these to solve problems.

#### In Geography:

The aim of this term's Geography is to identify our responsibility in caring for the environment. Throughout the term we will be focusing on what power we need and where it comes from. We will also be comparing renewable and non-renewable energy and looking at the pros and cons of each. The unit will then move the children on to look at what resources we need in life and whether there is enough for everyone. We are pleased to be joined by a local expert who will be visiting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

#### In Science:

Our Science unit takes us on a journey through space and our universe. We will work our way through questions that we will investigate and answer using scientific explanations and vocabulary.

What is the order of the planets from the sun?  
How do the planets move?  
What shape is the Earth?  
How does the moon move across the sky?  
Does day and night occur at the same time everywhere on Earth?

### In other areas of the curriculum:

**PSHE:** We will be looking at different types of family relationships.

**Art:** We will be exploring the theme of Landscapes whilst developing our sketching techniques.

**P.E.:** On Mondays, we will be exploring balances through gymnastics. On Thursdays during PPA time, we will be developing invasion game skills.

**French:** In a topic called, 'Chez Moi', we will be learning to describe where we live and who lives with us.

**Computing:** Google forms survey and programming using coordinates.

**Music:** We will be developing our rhythmic skills using junk percussion.

### Extended Learning Opportunities:

These ideas are just suggestions for possible extra learning.

- 1) As part of our space unit you might like to find out more about individual planets. Pick a planet from our solar system and complete some research. You can create a PowerPoint a poster or present your information anyway you like.
- 2) Find out how your family recycle. Think about the carbon footprint of your family. Could it be reduced some how? Make at least one change at home that may help reduce your carbon footprint.

### Dates for your diary:

**14<sup>th</sup> September** – Visitor to talk about renewable energy.

**27<sup>th</sup> September** – European day of languages

**W/B 27<sup>th</sup> September** – STEAM day at Noadswood.  
Date to be confirmed.

**TBC:** Castleton trip - introductory meeting for parents and carers

**For Noadswood, Applemore and NFA open mornings – keep an eye out for dates.**

**Homework:** During the term, there are 3 pieces of expected homework a week. If ALL homework is not completed, a warning will be given on the behaviour chart.

1. Spellings. Each week we will focus on different spellings and rules and the children will be tested on a Monday (6SL and 6LM) and a Friday (6DW). The children will have a spelling book to practise in and show their evidence of learning.
2. Reading. Children will be expected to read at least 3 times a week and each time should be recorded in their reading record. We will be checking these EVERY Monday.
3. Time tables. Children will continue to have a weekly times tables test and this will happen on a Wednesday. They will work through the different levels towards Platinum. Weekly practise should be done in the Times tables booklet but remember there is Times Tables Rockstars for an extra boost!

### Reminders:

Children should come to school in PE kit on a MONDAY and THURSDAY. This should consist of dark, plain tracksuit bottoms or shorts; white t-shirt and school jumper or cardigan. Children will also need suitable trainers for outdoor PE.