

CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 6 AUTUMN TERM 2022

WELCOME BACK

This is it! The final year of Junior School! We are absolutely delighted with the way the children have returned to school after such a glorious summer holiday and settled quickly into the routines of Year Six. As the oldest in the school, they will be undertaking more responsibilities around the school and are already fantastic role models for our younger pupils. We will have a busy year ahead, balancing the need for SATs preparation alongside ensuring the children still receive a rich and diverse curriculum, so that they leave us well prepared and fully equipped for secondary school.

As ever, you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

ENGLISH

Based on the award winning short movie 'Ruin' as well as 'James and the Giant Peach' the children will be writing character descriptions, internal dialogues and diary entries. The purpose of this is to develop an understanding of character development and the skills needed to write a short story.

Using 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret' by Brian Selznick as stimulus, the children will immerse themselves in the text and images with the following outcomes: predicting, through writing or drawing, the hidden message inside the automaton, writing a letter to Hugo, summarising how the characters have changed over the course of the novel as well as ongoing work of making predictions, inferences, studying new vocabulary and using evidence to deepen their understanding of the author's choices within texts as well as explaining their own opinions. 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret' fuses cinematography with graphic novel writing. The book has also been made into a full length feature film which we will be using, as well as the detailed drawings, to engage the children in the book. Spelling rules will be taught at the start of each week and followed up with activity work at the end of each week. Grammar will also be taught within Literacy lessons as well as during its own independent, weekly lesson.

MATHEMATICS

The children's learning will continue to be taught through the Maths No Problem curriculum. Our aim is to skilfully challenge mathematical knowledge whilst supporting all children to feel confident and stretched in their learning. This term, the key focus areas will be around 'number': comparing and ordering, rounding, multiplying and dividing large numbers as well as decimals, working with multiples and factors as well as in depth work using fractions. Mental mathematics and arithmetic will also be a key focus. This is not only the ability to recall all times tables facts (as well as associated division facts) but also mental mathematical tricks and skills which will be taught and practised. The expectations in maths this year will be high so our children would benefit from as much as they can do outside of school from timetables practice in the car to telling the time, increasing familiarity with money or even measuring amounts to help with cooking or baking.

COMPUTING

The children will be creating a powerpoint presentation using online research for a given Spanish speaking country. They will also be revisiting learning about spreadsheets and using formulas to solve problems.

D&T / Art

During our D&T lessons this half term we will be making birthday cards for each other that include pop-up and moving elements. To do this we will be using a variety of skills and materials including using craft knives and technical drawing mats.

SPANISH and FRENCH

Languages will be taught by a specialist language teacher from Twynham School. He will continue to increase the children's vocabulary and their use of this in conversation as well as learning more about Spanish /French culture. Children will continue to follow the same language they were taught in Year 5.

MUSIC

We will be learning about rounds, scales and chords, the music of Satie and composing based around their own scales. We will be focusing on singing of rounds and 2 part singing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND GAMES

Please remember to come into school in your PE kit on Games and Gym days.

Our Games days are:

6CO and 6VD—Wednesday

6CC and 6DB—Thursday

PE (gym) is on:

6CC—Tuesday

6DB—Wednesday

6CO and 6VD—Thursday

Multi-skills and gymnastics will be taught this term. Please ensure that children have trainers in school every day and that all PE kit is named and in school at all times. Shoulder length hair should be tied back (boys and girls) and all jewellery removed. Recently pierced ears must be covered with tape supplied from home.

SCIENCE

The children will be learning about evolution, inheritance, mutation and natural selection. This will be taught through the evolution of a range of different animals (including dinosaurs, mammals, lizards etc) over time as well as where we came from and how our DNA is formed and makes us who we are. In addition to this, after half term, the children will be experimenting with and learning about light and electricity.

RE and PSHE

In PSHE, we will be working as a class to create our class charter whilst playing lots of team-building games. In addition to this, we will be studying growth mindsets and how to support one another to reach for the stars. After half term, we will be studying how Christmas celebrations and traditions help Christians understand who Jesus was and why he was born.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will be bringing home a log in for Doodle Maths. It is an excellent online programme which, after an initial assessment, will set tasks appropriate to your child's ability. Please encourage the use of this regularly; Doodle maths works at it's best if the approach is little and often, remaining in the "Green Zone". However, although we like parents to support their child, we would ask that you do not help your child when using Doodle Maths as the programme will then assume your child understands and move them on, rather than set extra practise questions.

Children are set weekly tasks on Reading Plus which they are expected to complete. These reading activities will help them both with their reading fluency and their understanding of what they read.

In addition, every child should read regularly at home – we ask our children to aim for an average of at least 20 minutes per night. It would benefit your child greatly if they could be encouraged to discuss the language, characters and plot lines from the texts they read. We would also ask that you encourage your child to read a balance of fiction and non-fiction. In addition to this Reading Plus is also encouraged to be accessed at least once a week.

Please support your child in learning their multiplication and division facts as we will be encouraging all children to try and achieve Times Tables badges. Times Tables Rock Stars is a fantastic resource to support this leaning.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's education or well being, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher. We look forward to an enjoyable and productive year.

Mrs C Cook

Miss V Dibdin

Mr D Breeze

Mrs Chung/Mrs Carr

Class 6CO

Class 6VD

Class 6DB

Class 6CC

Year Leader