

CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 6 AUTUMN TERM 2023

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 the 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 'Catch-A-Lot' 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.

We will then be travelling back in time to learn about the events surrounding the sinking of the Titanic. The children will be writing information texts, learning which features need to be included before moving to a balanced argument: Who was responsible for the sinking. They will look at different viewpoints, from the shipbuilders to the Captain, to the metal workers to owners of the cruise line and then act out a court scene. This role play will help up to formulate our ideas and opinions before writing out balanced arguments.

A Boy in the Girls Bathroom is our Guided reading text. We will look at the authors intent, use of suspension, choice of language, character interaction and make predictions.

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 learning how to stay safe online and what to do if they feel unsure. We will also be learning how the internet works and how to communicate responsibly.

D&T / Art

During our D&T lessons this term we will be making soup. Before that, in Art, we will be learning how to create perspective in art, culminating in pictures of the Titanic.

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 - Wednesday

6CC and 6DB—Thursday

6VD— Thursday

PE (gym) is on:

6CC—Tuesday

6DB and 6VD —Wednesday

6CO—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 has 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.

Finally, we send home weekly spellings and arithmetic. Please encourage your child to complete these—the regular practise really does make a difference! The arithmetic is specifically created each week to reflect the learning

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