

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that everybody is looking forward to the Christmas holiday after a very busy term and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and wish you and your family a very merry and restful Christmas.

**A reminder of Teaching Staff:**

Walt Disney World Class - Miss Lane

Acropolis Class – Ms Sanderson-Turner

Music – Mrs Ricketts

French – Madame Livingston

RE – Ms Aguillar

Maths Meetings, Movement Mile and HLTA - Miss Lau

**Curriculum this term**

The curriculum map, which can be found on the Year 6 page of the website shows the most up-to-date overview of what we aim to cover during this academic year. The information outlined below is specifically related to what we aim to cover this Spring Term. The ideas highlighted below are our aims for teaching; however, these may change according to the needs of the children as the term progresses.

<https://www.ortons.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Useful+Documents&pid=425>

**English**

We will be continuing with the Power of Reading and will focus on a new book, Dark Sky Park by Philip Gross, which will inspire many exciting writing opportunities. Once this text is completed, we will be starting a film study. For more information about the CLPE and the Power of Reading, please follow this link: <https://clpe.org.uk/about-us>

**Maths**

A reminder that ALL children in Year 6 are expected to login to Times Tables Rock Stars at least 4 times a week. This allows us to track their progress and it is essential that Year 6 children have instant recall of all the multiplication and associated division facts up to 12X12. We will be following the maths topics outlined in the online curriculum map as well as work to help prepare the children for their upcoming SATS (week of the 8th May 2023).

**Science**

We will look at which characteristics are inherited and focus our discussions by exploring the characteristics of animals. The children will research how living things have adapted to their environments and why some animals have become extinct. Optional work over the Christmas break is for children to research their favourite animal and the habitat that it lives in, with a particular focus on how the animal has adapted to live in that specific environment.

**History/Geography**

This term in History the children will be investigating how a pile of dragon bones helped to solve an Ancient Chinese mystery in our topic of the Shang Dynasty. In Geography, the children will be investigating why 'Fair Trade' is fair.

**Art**

In this collection of lessons children learn and develop their skills in: design, drawing, craft, painting and art appreciation. They will be exploring works of Monet and Hopper as well as creating zentangle patterns.

### **Design Technology**

The children will be designing a playground featuring a variety of different structures, giving consideration to how the structures will be used.

### **RE**

The children will be exploring the key questions of 'What does Justice look like?' and 'Was Jesus' death part of God's plan?'

### **Computing**

We will be starting our touch typing unit as well as introducing the children to Python in order to create digital artwork.

**Music** – Taught by Sarah Ricketts.

The children will be exploring the topics of Jazz and Blues as well as rhythm. The children will also be listening to and appraising a wide variety of music in our 'Music of the week'.

### **PE**

Monday afternoons: Hockey for Spring 1 and Rounders for Spring 2.

Thursday afternoons: Gymnastics.

**French** – taught by Ms Livingstone

In French, the children's learning will focus on the use of irregular verbs as well as exploring the topic of The Weekend.

### **PSHE & Citizenship**

We will be learning about living in the wider world and will also be discussing the influence that media has in our lives.

### **How you can help:**

- Please check emails regularly.
- Make sure that your child's pencil case is fully stocked (pencils, ruler, glue stick, rubber, sharpener, green pen for editing, black pen for writing).
- Read and sign your child's diary each week.
- Please make sure that all clothes and property is labelled with your child's name.
- Please ensure that in line with our policy, a healthy snack is provided for break times.
- If you would like to speak to us please remember that before and after school can be very busy so if you think you need more than a couple of minutes please contact the school office to arrange an appointment via the following email: [info@orleans.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@orleans.richmond.sch.uk)

### **Finally.....**

As with all school terms, this is a busy one and we really do appreciate your continued help and support.

The Year 6 Team,  
Kate Sanderson-Turner & Zoe Lane