



## Mission Statement

***Guided by Jesus' love and example, we use our gifts to grow, pray and learn as a community; united in faith.***

January 2022

### Year 6 Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome back Year 6. This term is an important one and it is vital that the children make the most of every learning opportunity that they are given. We will be hosting **Booster Sessions** for all children both before, during and after school, to help children revise and retain key knowledge. Whilst most of the class follow our school rules impeccably: showing respect, working hard, and staying safe; we have noticed that some children think that the rules do not apply to them. Please could you have a conversation with your child about what is expected in school, especially linked to respecting others (both staff and pupils). We will be doing some work on this in our PSHE and ZONES lessons.



**Religious Education** – We will continue to follow the 'Come and See' programme and this term we will be studying the three topics: *Sources* (our Local Church and Community Topic); *Unity* (a Sacraments topic); and *Death and New Life* (our Lent and Easter topic).

**English and Talk for Writing** – We are continuing to use the Talk for Writing approach to teach writing:

- **Imitate** – We orally rehearse the text and explore the language and sentence structure used to create 'the writer's voice'. We then unpick the text from the point of view of both the reader and author, to help us create a writing toolkit.
- **Innovate** – We work together as a class, to adapt the text to fit a new ideas/context and look at ways to improve it further, using the writing toolkit.
- **Independent Application** – We use what we have learnt, to write our own text.



This term, our narrative text will be learning to write **Beating the Baddie Tales**, with a specific focus on **characterisation**. Our model text is called '**Diving for the Brick**' and features a rather grumpy P.E. teacher. We will be using books and films such as *Matilda*, *Harry Potter* and *the Demon Headmaster*, to inspire Baddie Tales that are set in schools. We will then move onto *Beating the Monster Tales*, inspired by creatures found in **The Hobbit** and **The Girl of Ink and Stars**. Throughout the unit we will be looking at different techniques we can use to show how a character feels (e.g. using idioms such as, 'My heart leapt into my mouth' rather than 'I was terrified')

Next half term, we are looking at '**Wishing Tales**' and focusing on our use of **dialogue** to develop the character and move the story forward. We will be studying a text called '**Staying Out**'. In our non-fiction unit, we will be looking at **Biographies** and will link this to significant individuals in our science topic: Charles Darwin and Mary Anning.



**Maths** – This term, we will be securing the speed and accuracy of our arithmetic skills: especially our ability to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions as well as long multiplication and division. Following on from last terms topics on **Fractions and Decimals**, we will be learning about **Percentages** and the relationship between the three. We will also continue to work on our understanding of **Place Value** of both decimals and whole numbers, and ways these numbers can be manipulated (standard and non-standard partitioning; multiplication; and division of numbers by 10, 100 and 1000). This knowledge will be applied when we learn about **Converting Measures** later in the term. After half term, we will be building on what we know about **Perimeter and Area** and linking this to our knowledge of **Shape**. We will end the term by learning about **Statistics**.

**Topic:** This half term, we will be focusing on **History** and studying how Britain changed after 1066, with a specific focus of **The Normans**. We will be looking at the fight for the English throne and key events during the Battle of Hastings. We will then move onto learning about the impact the Normans had on Britain (Harrying of the North and Castles) and investigate significant events that happened after the Norman reign (Magna Carta). At the end of the topic, we will then touch upon William Wallace, Robert Bruce and the leadership of Scotland. As part of our **Design and Technology** lessons we will be learning about Mechanisms and use this knowledge to design and build working **catapults**. After half-term, we will be focusing on **Geography** and exploring the physical geography of the British **Coast**.

**Science:** This term, we are learning about **Light**. We will learn all about how light helps us to see; explore how light travels and investigate what happens when light rays are reflects off a surface or pass through a transparent medium and are refracted. After half term, we will be moving on to learning about **Evolution and Inheritance**. In this topic we will be exploring the work of **Charles Darwin and Mary Anning**, as well as recapping our knowledge of **fossils and rocks** from Year 3

**PE:** In Year 6, the usual day for PE this term is **Wednesday**. Children will continue to wear their P.E. kit into school. As we always take pride in our appearance, please make sure that your child's kit follows our uniform policy: plain dark-coloured tracksuit/leggings, white t-shirt (ideally with the logo), burgundy shorts (summer) and sports trainers (no platform or fashion trainers). This term in P.E. we are focusing on **Net and Wall** games and will be learning how to play **Handball** (a cross between football and netball)



**Homework:** We use **Century** to set weekly homework assignments linked to the learning we are doing in class. Children will also be set weekly spellings to learn.



If your child has lost their login details for either Century or Seesaw, please let us know. We will post an activity every week on Seesaw, reminding children what they need to do for their homework: **Spellings, TTRS, Century and Reading**. Homework will be set on a **Friday** and will be due the following **Friday**. I will hold a **Homework club** on a **Friday lunchtime** for those who miss homework or struggle to complete it at home. In these sessions, the children will have access to i-pads and teacher support.

Being able to recall your multiplication tables fluently, in and out of order, is a key skill that can be applied to nearly every area of mathematics. The children have been given access to **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)**, which is a learning app specifically designed to help children learn and recall their times tables at speed. The app is set up to assess the children's current times tables knowledge and then adapt accordingly. We recommend that children use TTRS for 5 mins a day. The teachers can log in to check your progress and identify areas that we can support with in school. We will be running weekly **Boys Vs Girls tournaments**.



Each child has been provided with a **banded book** to suit their reading and comprehension level. These **books can go home but must be brought into school each day along with the child's Reading Record**. Please encourage your child to read as much, and as widely as possible at home. Remember reading isn't just about being able to read fluently. It is vital that children understand what they are reading – please take time to discuss the meaning of new vocabulary with them and encourage them to infer and make predictions based on what they have already read. **We expect that all children will read at least 4 times a week** and this will be recorded in their Reading record, with a parent's signature.

We are always available if you need to speak to us – please come and speak to us at the end of the day or phone the office and leave a message for us to call you back. Alternatively, you can use our class email address to get in touch: [year6@djf.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:year6@djf.srscmat.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Guidon*