June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we hope you had an enjoyable half term. Can you believe that we’ve reached Term 6 already!

Here is an outline of what we will be studying in the final term of Year 4:

**English:** In Term 6, we will begin by looking at ‘The Wishgranter’ – a short story clip. We will be using this to recap on expanded non phrases, prepositions, conjunctions, figurative language, using prefixes and the difference between open and closed questions. The children will complete an explanation text to explain how a wish machine works.

After that, we will be focusing on autobiographies – it would be great if you could dig out photographs for your child to use when they write their own autobiographies – if you only have photos digitally, please email them to me at warners@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk or Mrs Abbott: abbottj@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk and we can print them out. We will be sending out a questionnaire for homework so the children can ask family and friends about memorable times in their lives.

During **GPS** (grammar, spelling & punctuation) sessions, we will be focusing on the need to use a range of punctuation, paragraphs and descriptive sentences in their writing as well as understanding different word classes and language features. Please continue to encourage your child with their writing and to read at home for at least 15 minutes daily as part of their homework; questioning them to check that they have understood what they have read.

**Mathematics:** We will continue to look at the full range of Mathematical concepts including statistics to solve problems; interpreting bar charts, graphs and tables; Geometry: Properties of Shape and Position and Direction. However, we will also continue to focus on number, including decimals, to ensure that the children have a good understanding of place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) before moving up to year 5. Please support your child with his/her calculation skills and continue to encourage your child to learn the key addition facts, times tables facts and with learning to tell the time. Please continue to encourage your child to practise their maths at home using the Times Tables Rock Stars site. There are also plenty of free resources for all subjects on BBC Teach: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/primary/zd7p47h>

**Times Tables:** A reminder: The children will carry out the DFE Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) online test between the 5th and 16th June. They will answer 25 questions on multiplication and division facts up to and including 12 x 12. The pupils will have 6 seconds to answer each question. The check will take each pupil less than 5 minutes to complete. At the end of the assessment window, a total score out of 25 will be reported to each school for all of their pupils who took the check. There will be **no expected standard** threshold for the MTC. The children have all had a chance to practise using the DfE website.Thank you for your continued support, effort and enthusiasm in helping your children to learn their tables.

**RE:** This term we will be discussing what it means to be on ‘The Journey of Life’ and how different religions address this deep subject! We will explore what happens in Christian, Hindu and Humanist ceremonies of commitment and discuss what these rituals mean. The children will also explore why ‘marking’ life milestones is important to Christians, Hindu's and Humanists. We will conclude by discussing any connections between how believers show commitment and their own ideas about community, belonging and beliefs.

**Science**: As part of our topic on ‘**Animals including Humans’ we will be learning to:**

* Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans
* Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions
* Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

**Geography**: This term’s geography topic is a local area study entitled; ‘**How and why is my local environment changing?’**

During the enquiry pupils will have opportunities through the application and analysis of a wide range of geographical skills and resources to:

* **Identify**, **describe** and give **reasons** for why environments change;
* **Explain** with examples how some environmental change may be the result of natural events whilst other change may be the result of deliberate human activity to improve the quality of life;
* **Observe**, **record** and **explain** changes that have occurred in the past to the school and its grounds and its immediate environment;
* **Identify, describe and explain** how an aspect of life in the local area has changed over a long period of time, or how the locality has been affected by a significant national or local event or development, or the work of a significant individual;
* **Demonstrate understanding** of how the quality of the environment may change within the local area and make **judgements t**o **explain observations**;
* **Recognise** how remote sensing by satellites and satellite images inform geographers of environmental change on a global scale and **identify** and **explain**

**ICT: This term’s unit is:** Programming B – Repetition in games**.** This unit explores the concept of repetition in programming using the Scratch environment. It begins with a Scratch activity similar to that carried out in Logo in Programming unit A, where learners can discover similarities between two environments. Learners look at the difference between count-controlled and infinite loops, and use their knowledge to modify existing animations and games using repetition. Their final project is to design and create a game which uses repetition, applying stages of programming design throughout.

**Internet Safety** We will start the term by discuss strategies for keeping personal information private, and how some online services may seek consent to store more information about us. We will also discuss the importance of internet use being monitored both at home, school and in public places. Children will learn the digital age for consent and what this means for them.

**PSHE:** This term’s‘Personal, Social and Health Education’ theme is ‘Changing Me’, which includes learning about puberty and human reproduction:

*Jigsaw’s ‘Changing Me’ unit is taught over a period of 6 weeks, usually in the second half of the summer term. Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and developmental stage, building on the previous years’ learning. Please note: at no point will a child be taught something that is inappropriate; and if a question from a child arises and the teacher feels it would be inappropriate to answer, (for example, because of its mature or explicit nature), the child will be encouraged to ask his/her parents or carers at home. The question will not be answered to the child or class if it is outside the remit of that year group’s programme. The Changing Me Puzzle is all about coping positively with change and includes:* ***Year 4 (****Ages 8-9): Internal and external reproductive body parts. Recap about puberty and menstruation. Conception explained in simple terms.* If you would like to find out more about this unit of PSHE, please visit the Jigsaw website <https://www.jigsawpshe.com/information-for-parents-and-carers/> or make an appointment to speak to me or Mrs Abbott about it at a mutually convenient time.

**Spelling:** We have two main spelling groups: one group will be focusing daily on spelling words which include the suffix – ‘ous’ and adverbials of frequency and manner (see attached sheet). The other group will have spellings that link to previously taught phonics that need to be consolidated (these spellings will be sent home every Friday, as before). Both groups will also focus on Year 3&4 statutory high frequency words.

**Homework:**

Daily reading & recording in ‘Reading Record’ books.

Practise X tables regularly.

Practise weekly spellings.

In addition, maths, English and/or topic homework will usually be given out on a Wednesday to be returned by the following Monday.

Friday: Spelling test.

**P.E:** Thursdays (athletics) will be our PE day this term. As before, please send your child to school in their **team coloured PE kit** on these days. Please ensure that they have the appropriate kit, inc. a jumper/sweatshirt (for the cold days), a suitable sun hat (in case we have a hot day!) and suitable footwear. **School shoes are not permitted for PE lessons**. Long hair should be tied back and earrings removed for PE. If for any reason, your child is not able to take part in P.E. please send a note to let me know, otherwise we will expect them to take part.

If appropriate, please apply sun cream to your child before they come to school; you are welcome to send in a bottle of sun lotion to keep in school for ‘top ups’ during the day. Please label with your child’s name. Also, in the warmer weather please ensure your child has a refillable water bottle (labelled). It is essential during the summer term.

We would like to remind children that jewellery (other than a wristwatch) and nail varnish are not permitted. Please ensure that all items of uniform, including coats and P.E. kit, are clearly labelled with your child’s name.

**Dates to remember:**

5th – 16th June – Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

Thursday 29th June – Sports Day afternoon.

Monday 17th July – Reports out to parents/carers.

Friday 21st July – Leavers Service / Last day of Term

We look forward to a busy and exciting end to the year. Please do come and see us at the end of the day if you have any queries or concerns about your child this term. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Ms Warner, Mrs Abbott, Mrs Clugston, Mrs Everington-Nee, Mrs Booth, Miss Sobiech

**Term 6 – vocabulary**

**Science - Animals including Humans**

Digestive system

canine

molar

incisor

premolar

consumer

producer

**Geography – How and why is my local area changing?**

location

environment

river mouth

sources

geographical

census

hypothesis

satellite

remote sensing

**R.E: Journeys**

journey

destination

celebration

initiation

purifying

vows

promises

commitment

beliefs

reincarnation