

Windmill Primary School



Year 5/6 Curriculum Newsletter
Spring 2 - **We can save the world!**

Dear Parents /Carers,

What an amazing term we have had. We've learned all about the Ancient Chinese civilisation of the Shang Dynasty and I'm sure the children are able to share lots of their learning with you. We had great fun making a digestive system on Science Enquiry Day and have written some amazing stories set in a fantasy setting in English. We can't wait to show you the children's work in their books.

Overview of Themes & Visitors for the Year

Summer 1/2 – **Conflict** – We are looking forward to our visit to France. There are lots of trips organised for all children staying at Windmill during this week too. We will also be hosting our Year 5/6 production during Summer 2.



We Can Save the World

This term, our theme will be about the human impact on the environment, with a focus on recycling and actions we can take to try to save the world. We'll be learning about renewable and non-renewable energy and how this can be developed to help reduce global warming. We'll be taking part in a global project including locating plastic and using drones to find and identify plastic rubbish. We'll be learning about Boyan Slat, who is a boy that has invented a contraption to help rid the seas of pollution. We will be starting the

term with a recycling challenge – designing and creating products in the hope of selling them to raise money for our phase. Please save your recyclable materials over the holiday and bring them to school on the first day back!

WOW

We will have a number of Wow days throughout the term. We will be visited by 'Magistrates in the Community', who are real magistrates that work with our children to participate in a criminal 'trial'. Year 6 will be heading off to the Frontier Centre for an Inspirational Day in preparation for their upcoming SATs and then they will be visiting Silverstone to take part in the 'Big Bang' event. Later on in the term, the children will be visited by the Waste Education Bus and finally by Helen Baston from Cawleys.



English

In English, we will be reading an adventure story, which follows a 'journey tale' structure. The children will be learning how to write a great adventure story of their own. We'll then move on to focus on non-fiction – this term, the children will read a number of discussion texts and then write their own based on this term's theme.

Year 5 Maths

Year 5 will be developing work on fractions this term. We will start with converting mixed numbers and improper fractions then move on to comparing and ordering fractions that are less than or greater than 1. We will then move on to adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers.

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Year 6 Maths

In maths, year 6 will be consolidating work on percentages of amounts and beginning to use algebra to describe and generate number sequences; to express missing number problems algebraically and find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns. Finally they will revisit work on area, perimeter and volume and converting measurements.

Year 5 - What we ask of the children at home

We want to encourage the children to talk as much as possible about their learning; this helps them to practise and consolidate the skills and knowledge they have gained during the school day. The following is expected of the children:



- **Read at home 3 times per week** – the children can write in their reading log themselves, but please add your initials or signature. Oxford Owl is a great online resource!
- **Practise set spellings 3 times per week** – these could be written in their homework book or just practised out-loud
- **Practise their times tables and corresponding division facts 3 times per week**
- **Mathletics** – children should use this amazing resource at least once

per week.

Year 6 - What we ask of the children at home

Year 6 have been working hard to revise concepts in Maths and English using their revision guides to help them. The children need to continue working through the pages outlined on the plan; reading learning and revision will be set weekly. All homework should be completed during the allocated week. If your child is finding this difficult, please ask them to speak to me and we will arrange some time at play or lunchtimes for them to complete their homework. So far, the children have been really enthusiastic and have loved the responsibility and organisation required for their revision tasks.

PE

PE kit should be in school every day as we are not always able to stick to our planned PE days. PE kit should include clothing suitable for the weather along with plimsolls (trainers are sometimes a better option if possible). Earrings should not be worn for PE; if your child has recently had them pierced, please write a letter to your child's class teacher and provide tape for them to wear during PE lessons.

Water bottles should be brought to school with fresh water each day and taken home to be cleaned each evening. This is essential to keep children hydrated throughout the day, including during PE lessons.



Year 5 have swimming lessons every Thursday afternoon this term; please ensure your child has full kit with them as detailed in the swimming letter. A reminder that Gravestock will be arriving back at school a little later than usual.

Key Dates – please see dates sheet

Thank you for all your support this term. We look forward to seeing you after half term!

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Durrheim, Mrs Brett, Mrs Brightwell and Mrs Tracey
5/6 Team