



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

October 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to our new learning theme in Year 6 for the second half of the Autumn Term '**Parliament**'. To launch this theme, the children will be having a creative project day to re-enact the story of the gunpowder plot and create art work linked to this event.

This theme will be linked across our topic work focusing primarily on Art and Design, Citizenship, History and Science. The topic will also include links to other National Curriculum subjects including Geography, Music, Computing and Languages.

### **MAIN LEARNING THEME – 'Parliament'**

#### **Areas of study for the second half of the Autumn Term will include:**

- Understand the history of the 'Gunpowder Plot'
- Describe and understand the difference between rules and laws and how they are made and enforced
- Describe and understand the role of MPs
- Describe and understand the different forms of government across the world
- Understand the difference between political parties
- Use understanding of the above to create their own political manifestos

### **KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:**

Guy Fawkes, Gunpowder, Treason, Bonfire, Government, Parliament, Prime Minister, MP, House of Lords and Commons, Monarch, Law, Democracy, Capitalist, Communist, Monarchy, Republic, Election, Voting, Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats, Independence, Coalition,

### **MATHS**

Maths will continue to be taught daily in class and in addition 'Big Maths' will continue to be delivered in ability groups across the school. The main objectives next half term are as follows: calculations, problem solving, geometry and fractions, decimals and percentages. We will continue to focus on mental maths and times tables, including rapid recall and under time constraints and explaining our ideas using mathematical vocabulary.

### **ENGLISH**

We will study Literacy and Language including the unit '**Poetry- The Power of Imagery**' and '**Argument**' during next half-term. Reading material based on these topics can include:

- *Ted Hughes collected poems for children*
- *100 years of poetry*
- *The orchard book of poems*
- *The Rattle Bag*
- *Jabberwocky*

During many parent meetings, I advised that your child should be encouraged to read a wide variety of texts, including stories, non-fiction texts, magazines, comics, children's newspapers, internet web pages and poetry. Please encourage your child to read for a minimum of 20 minutes per day. We will also continue to have regular grammar and spelling sessions, including booster provision, to further support children's writing progress and focus on SPAG (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation).

### **PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT– Trips and Assemblies**

The children will be learning about the different political parties through computer research. We aim to share with you our ideas for a new political party in an assembly towards the end of the half term. There will also be an exhibition of our art work. More details and dates about the assembly and exhibition to follow in the coming weeks.

We hope there will be an opportunity for the class to visit the local council linked to this topic and for an MP to visit the class. More details of dates to follow.

### **HOME LEARNING**

Your child will receive a half termly Home Learning Project entitled 'My Political Party' and 'The Gunpowder Plot'. This is not a compulsory project however it will be beneficial to the learning in class if your child could complete some of the ideas under the headings – **Creativity, Research and Mathematical**.

I will continue to set weekly Maths and English key skills- which have proved popular with many parents and acts as a revision for your child. Homework will be given out on a Wednesday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. This gives the children a full week to complete the homework sheets and return to school to be placed in their plastic wallet. There have been at times already that children have forgotten or a parent has forgotten to pack the homework. Please encourage your child to independently be responsible for their homework as this will be the expectation of secondary school. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break time. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **PE**

Children will partake in two hours of PE each week, one indoor and one outdoor. Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please remind your child it is their responsibility to bring their full PE kit into school on a Monday, leave it in school all week then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school. Can we remind you that school rules state that for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. If your child forgets their PE kit on the designated PE day, a letter will be sent home to inform you.

### **SNACKS AND MEALS**

Your child is encouraged to bring a healthy snack to school for break but please can I remind you we are a nut free school. Key stage 2 classes have hot school meals available every day. Please make payments by using ParentPay, our secure online payment system. Please contact the school office if you are experiencing any difficulties with ParentPay.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact either myself or a member of the year 6 team at the start of the school day or by making an appointment via the school office. We look forward to continue working in partnership with you to ensure that your child makes progress and has an enjoyable learning experience.

**It has been a positive start to Year 6 and I am pleased with the progress that is being made.**

Yours sincerely

Mr Robertson  
Class Teacher

Mrs Frost  
TA

Mrs Locke  
HLTA

Mrs Sprouse  
TA

Mrs Reynolds  
Head Teacher

