



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the final half term of the school year before the summer break, we wanted to get in touch again and let you know our plans for learning in the Upper Juniors. The Year 6 teachers and TA team (now welcoming Mrs Chlebiej while Miss Pinsent is on maternity leave) are looking forward to another successful, exciting and busy half term.

Hopefully, we can look forward to some lovely summer weather, so please make sure that the students have water bottles and sun hats to come to school with and are also protected with sunscreen.

If you would like to support your child's learning at home, we thought it would be helpful for you to have a more detailed idea of what we are learning about.

Maths

Stages A-C will be completing studies on 'time and money', while Stages E-F complete their 'algebra' unit. All students will then have knowledge reviews targeted to their stage and individual class needs to help fill any gaps in mathematical learning identified by stage teachers. There will be a low-stakes end of year assessment in Maths, to inform future planning and grouping.

English

In English this half term, the students will continue to work on planning and writing biographies about Neil Armstrong, based on their own research. They will consider what amounts to 'key' information, and will pull all their facts together using the features of biographical writing learnt. They will also investigate the writing of some significant authors and also read and perform some playscripts, noting the features, before trying to write their own.

SPAG

Students will complete activities based on the following objectives: 1) Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of cohesive devices: 2) Repetition of a word or phrase, grammatical connections (for example, the use of adverbials such as on the other hand, in contrast, or as a consequence] and ellipsis and 3) Layout devices (for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets or tables, to structure text). They will also work on consolidating their understanding of previous SPAG objectives from KS1 and KS2.

Geography

Our Geography unit this half term will take the form of a study of the local area around All Saints, covering the following concepts and skills: Geography of the local area, Sketch Maps (Fieldwork), Local Issues, Data Collection (Fieldwork), and Graphing data.

Science

Students will study a unit entitled Animals Including Humans, which will cover the relevant Year 6 objectives as well as touching on objectives from previous year groups as revision.

Objectives will include: to describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans; to identify the different types of teeth in human and their simple functions; to identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition and that they cannot make their own food, they get nutrition from what they eat; to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function; to identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement; to describe the changes as humans develop to old age; to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood; to describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans, and to construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

They will also complete a unit on the properties and changes of materials, covering objectives such as : To compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets; To understand that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution; to use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating; to give reasons, based on testing, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic; to demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes, and to explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials and that this kind of change is not usually reversible.

Computing

This unit brings together elements of all the four programming constructs: sequence, repetition, selection and variables. It offers students the opportunity to use all of these constructs in a different, but still familiar environment, while also utilising a physical device — the micro:bit. The unit begins with a simple program for students to build in and test within the new programming environment, before transferring it to their micro:bit. Students then take on other new coding projects, with each lesson adding more depth.

PSHE

In PSHE this half term, Upper Juniors will be exploring digital literacy and economic wellbeing. Students will be taught that not everything online is true, students will identify strategies to identify the reliability of online information. Students will also be discussing what online information is appropriate to share, including images.

Students will be discussing that not having enough money to pay bills can impact a person's mental health and wellbeing. Students will explore how earning money pays for things, and that there are many different job roles within the community to suit strengths and interests.

PE

In Summer term 2 Upper Junior students will be learning about striking and fielding games and mini athletics.

Art

In art this half term, Upper Juniors will continue to explore 'Landscape Art'. Having already explored line, tone and pattern in the work of Van Gogh and Rousseau, students will bring these skills into their own landscape drawing of their local environment.

Drama

Drama Skills and Group Improvisations.

Music

In music, students will be exploring popular music through the ukulele. They will learn what a ukulele is and its basic features before beginning to strum through the four strings. They will then explore what a chord is in music and how we play two basic chords on the ukulele, moving on to use this chord knowledge to perform a simple popular song on the ukulele. This will build towards developing our chord playing technique on the ukulele to open up the four chord song, which we would then refine and rehearse for an ensemble performance.

As always, please do contact Ms Wade or Mr Slater if you would like any information supporting your child at home with learning.

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