

WALPOLE CROSS KEYS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Year 5 and 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome back, I hope you have had an enjoyable Easter break. We have had a busy start to the new term.

Our Themes

Our first theme is 'The world is your oyster'.

In English, we will read *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London, which is a short adventure novel by Jack London published in 1903 and set in Yukon, Canada, during the 1890s Klondike Gold Rush, when strong sled dogs were in high demand. We will use the text to explore various genres of writing.

In Maths, we will focus on looking at properties of shapes, including measuring angles in degrees using a protractor. We will also calculate angles on a straight line and around a point. We will also look at co-ordinates in the first quadrant. This will then be extended to include reflecting and translating shapes with coordinates.

In science, they will develop their knowledge of the Earth's (and other planets') place in the solar system, and their relationships with other bodies in space, in particular with the Sun. They will also learn how the Earth's orbit determines the length of a year and why we have leap years.

In art, we will look at American Indian art including designs used by some of the Native American tribes of North America.

After half term, our topic is 'A Time to Shine'.

In English, we will look at reading and writing playscripts, as well as focusing on persuasive and information writing.

In maths, we will focus on various elements linked to measure, including mass, volume and capacity. We also look at converting units of time and look at timetables. We will continue to develop mental and written calculations.

In science, we will look at reproduction in plants and animals. As they learn about plant reproduction children will extend their knowledge of the function of the different parts of flowering plants. They will also learn that plants can reproduce in other ways, through asexual reproduction.

In history, we will look at how Britain has changes since 1948. We will focus on areas such as home life, work life, population, popular culture and technology.

Home Learning

Home Learning activities shall be set at the beginning of each half term. The children will be given a choice of activities to choose from. Their completed work will be shared with the class and celebrated at the end of every half term. In addition, spellings, reading activities and maths homework will also be sent home on a weekly basis.



Reading Books



We should have our reading books and records in school every day and should read at home as often as we can. Children should be reading with an adult where possible so that the adults can ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding.

PE

It is important to make sure that we have PE kits in school throughout the week. Children will need black or blue shorts, a pale blue polo shirt, a tracksuit (for those colder outdoor sessions) and trainers.

This half term, the children will continue working with Sam Loomes every **Wednesday afternoon** who works within the curriculum to ensure each individual is being challenged to their ability. These PE lessons are designed to work core skills (for example, throwing and catching/hand eye co-ordination)



and consist of a warm up which will progress into an activity where a specific skill will be put into practice in a game situation at the end. Sam strives to make every lesson fun and enjoyable to make sure the children are putting full effort into it to maximise their performance and development.

During the second half term, they will be going swimming and more details will be sent out nearer the time.

We thank you for your support with your child's learning. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Robinson