

26.05.2023



Years 5 and 6 Summer 1 Newsletter

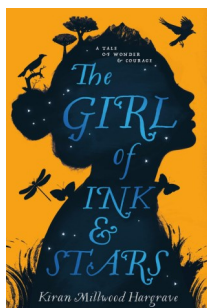
Let's Explore!

We have had a fantastic half term with Years 5 and 6. It has been so great to be able to use our outdoor space and we cannot believe we are going to be embarking on our final half term with our current cohorts of children!

We've had a busy half term and we are proud of all our children, but we are especially proud of our Year 6s and want to say a special 'well done' to them as they have taken their recent SATs in their stride and are now creating wonderful writing portfolios to exhibit the full range of their writing skills, which they have been refining carefully this year. We know how hard you are working and how you are giving your all, as you are preparing to finish your time at St Michael's—but we aren't letting you go just yet!



We still have lots of exciting things to look forward to this school year, but take a look at our Summer 1 newsletter to see a selection of the work we have already completed in our Explore topic.



Guided Reading

In Year 5, we have been reading 'The Girl of Ink and Stars' (Kiran Millwood Hargrave), exploring many important themes such as myth, magic and the power of friendship. We will continue this book after half term.

In Year 6, we have been refining our skills through reviewing short texts each week.

Spellings

We have covered spelling patterns including: consonant patterns and rules involving 'c'; roots and derivations to aid spelling; and patterns/rules in the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum words.

It would be supportive if your child/ren could regularly look at the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 National Curriculum words as the children have found these patterns tricky to recall. These can be found in their Reading Record.



English

In English, we have read the book 'Boy in the Tower' and focused on the genre of newspaper reports. The children have had to recall and use all the features of a newspaper report during this unit, building to writing their own report on the rescue of our main characters to conclude our unit. The children have been gripped by this book and we have loved sharing it with them.



We have also read 'Charles Darwin On The Origin of Species' and developed our non-fiction writing to create our own explanation texts on a chosen animal and their adaptations. Again, the children have had to recall and use the features of the text type—we've loved learning about a range of animals as we have read their texts.

Maths

In Year 5, we have spent this half term looking at statistics, shape and position and direction. We have also moved onto completing full arithmetic papers. In Year 6, we have been revising the Key Stage 2 curriculum to support their transition to secondary school.

As we have said before, the Year 5 and Year 6 curriculums are heavily reliant on the children being confidently fluent with their times tables facts for a large proportion of the areas of Maths we teach (including as fractions and measures). Please be reminded that both Year 5 and Year 6 children have TT Rockstars set weekly and these will help improve their fluency and in turn their confidence to apply their timetables.



General Reminders:

Children are to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days.

Their PE kit should consist of:

- plain white t-shirt/polo-shirt (a change of polo-shirt from their uniform);
- plain black shorts or plain black PE skirt;
- plain black jogging trousers;
- plain black sweatshirt;
- trainers or plimsolls.



Please only send your child/ren to school with water in their water bottle, **not** squash, juice or anything fizzy.



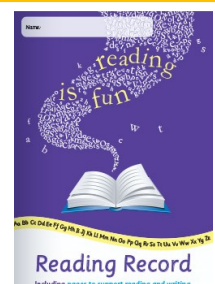
Please be reminded that children should only be bringing a small pencil case to school.

Please ensure you name **every** piece of your child/ren's school uniform and PE kit – including socks and tights.



Please be reminded that children should not wear jewellery (other than stud earrings or a watch) or any makeup (including nail varnish) to school.

Please remind your child/ren to have their Reading Record in school every day and remember it should be signed a minimum of three times per week.



Thank you!

Explore

Since our return from the Easter break, we have been diving into our Explore topic, 'Our community: what if we explore it?'

Take a look at the pictures on the following pages to see what we have learnt about...

Our Topic Launch



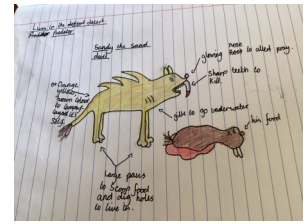
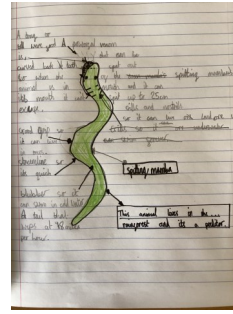
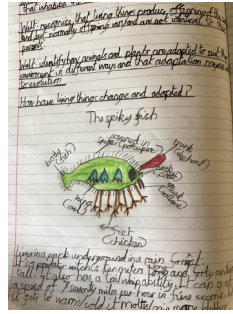
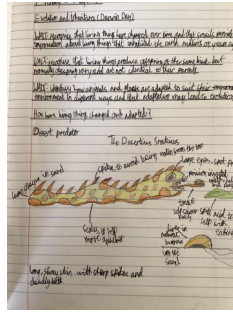
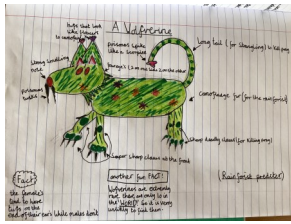
Using Purple Mash for Map Work and Darwin Day



'Let there be real harmony so that there won't be splits in the community. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.' 1 Corinthians 1 v10

Explore (continued)

Our Creature Adaptations



Comparing Farnsfield to Sneinton



Our Trip to Brackenhurst



'Let there be real harmony so that there won't be splits in the community. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.' 1 Corinthians 1 v10