

For more information about these topics and resources such as websites check out our frog page at **oldpalace-towerhamlets.frogos.net (do not include www.)**

### **Homework**

In year 6 homework will be given to the children every **Thursday** and should be returned on **Wednesday**.

**Reading** – please ensure that your child reads for 30 minutes every day. Talk to them about what they have read and ask some questions. For example re-tell the story, how did the author create suspense? What emotive language was used?

**English & Maths activity**—each week your child will receive an activity to complete please ensure your child spends at least 20 minutes a day on either.

**Spellings, Times tables & Mental Maths** - The children will be tested weekly. Please ensure your child learns these at home.

**They will mark their homework in the lesson which will be brought home in a folder along with their new piece of homework.**

### **Research Project**

#### **Key Learning**

Our topic this half term is 'Life Story'. We are learning about natural habitats, animal classification and theories of evolution. The children will be exploring the natural world, discovering just how plants, animals and humans live on this planet.

#### **Knowledge**

For their research project, they will be acting as naturalists exploring the world's most exotic habitats, and learning about the plants and animals they may encounter.

#### **Skills**

Plan and arrange organisational features e.g. subheadings, titles and captions

Draw diagrams e.g. Venn diagrams, tables and statistics

Select online resources and check Frog

The children have to produce the following:

#### **Poster**

The children can produce a poster to help others understand how to classify animals.

The poster should contain information about the classifications of animals, amphibians, mammals etc, and explain how you can tell an animal belongs to a particular family. For example, we know that a lion is a mammal, because it has four legs and a backbone.

#### **Success Criteria**

Carry out research on the evolution of reptiles, mammals or birds

Plan the layout of your poster

Use Venn diagrams to classify the type of animal you are researching

Use organisational features mentioned above to organise your poster

#### **How can you help?**

You can make sure you support them by selecting only relevant information for their research. You can help your child by guiding them when researching online or at the library, and by checking through their work and helping them to correct mistakes.

Please ensure that you help them manage their time efficiently by checking weekly.



**Year 6 Newsletter - Autumn 2**  
**Assistant Head teacher - Miss Millward**  
**Teachers - Ms. Begum (6B) Ms. Gorji (6G)**  
**Set Teachers - Ms. Blackburn & Mrs Diaz- Patel**  
**Teaching Assistant - James**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! Please remember we are happy to have a chat with you in the mornings and answer any questions you might have or help you where we can. Below are some notes and reminders so that this year runs as smoothly as possible.

***Please take time to read the newsletter with your child and keep it in a***

#### **School times / attendance**

School starts at **9:00am** and ends at **3:30pm**. Please make sure that your child arrives to school on time each day and that you collect your child on time.

#### **Behaviour reward:**

If your child receives a Good News Slip this half term their name will go into a reward box and at the end of the term 24 lucky children will be selected from KS1 and also KS2. The prize will be a KS1 Winter Wonderland party or a KS2 Ice skating at Somerset House provided by our Business Partners Rothschild Bank

#### **PE & Fitness**

Year 6 will still have PE every **Friday** afternoon and Fitness session every **Tuesday** morning. Please make sure that your child brings the **PE kits** to school for these days.

#### **Trip:**

The children will be visiting the Natural History Museum **Wednesday 6th December 2017**. This trip links in with their topic 'Life story'. They will be participating in a workshop, which will allow the children to learn about amazing adaptations that allow animals to see.

#### **Important Dates:**

**Friday 10th November**— 6B Assembly

**Friday 17th November**- Super heroes and Villains Fancy Dress for Children In Need

**Beginning 20th November**— Creative Week

**Tuesday 12th December**- Parent Meeting

**Thursday 14th December**— DT Day

**Friday 15th December**- Christmas Lunch

**Monday 18th December** -Christmas Party



## Ideas on how to support your child's learning at home.

These are the topics we will be learning:

### English:

This half term, we are reading a range of texts based on our topic, Life Story, Firstly, the children will be reading **Journey to the River Sea: By Eva Ibboston**. The story is set in the early 1900s and is adventure story about a young orphan girl who goes to the Amazon Rainforest. The children will need to use descriptive language to explain the scenery and journey to the rainforest, as well as a range of adverbial phrases and cohesive devices to make sure their diaries are in a clear, chronological order.

The children will also be reading **Ballads and narrative poems** to find clues within the poem to work out the narrative of each poem and comment on a author's word choice and the various poetic devices used.

Next, the children will be reading a range of **non-fiction texts** on endangered animals to collect evidence of arguments for and against the protection of animals. They will use their findings to produce a **discussion text** on this issue, which will require a formal tone, a range of connectives to present both sides of the argument. We will also focus on using a range of punctuation marks for detail and clarity (particularly ; : ( ) and hyphens).

As all of these pieces of writing will be used to assess your child's writing ability, **it is important that you encourage them to practice their technical writing skills at home by focusing on use of punctuation, connectives and correct use of grammar.** Key spelling lists will also be sent home weekly so please help your child to learn these.

### Maths:

Over the next week, we will be spending time on general revision. The areas that we will be looking at will include: mental and written methods for the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), shape and space, angles, probability, word problems, fractions, decimals and percentages. Please look on emaths for examples of test questions and answers. Here are some examples of areas that children might need support on:

#### Algebraic number sentences

These are questions where instead of the missing number being at the end of a number sentence, such as:  $13 \times 12 =$  or The missing number is in the middle.  $13 \times \underline{\quad} = 156$

The children have to use the opposite calculation (in this case division) to solve these. Examples of questions could be:

$$10 \times \underline{\quad} = 100 -$$

$$20 - \underline{\quad} = 10 +$$

These types of questions can be adapted according to the ability of your child e.g. through changing the values of the numbers or including decimals.

#### Solving equations

Numbers could also be replaced with letters where e.g. if

$$a = 10 \quad b = 4 \quad c = 5 \quad d = 2$$

What is  $40 - a$ ?      What is  $ab - cd$ ?      What is  $2a$  ?

### Topic: Life story

The children will be learning about the job of a naturalist and the life of Charles Darwin. Also the children will be able to understand what a biome is and discuss different features of habitats and where they are found in the world. Encourage your child to use the school library or the internet to help aid their research. In this unit, the children will be classifying and comparing living organisms such as plants and animals. They will also be using keys to assist them in classifying different species in their immediate environment. Furthermore, the children will learn about the topic of evolution and adaptation and discuss how scientists believe humans have evolved over time. Finally they will be able to recognize that when living things reproduce they create offspring that inherit some characteristics which are similar but not identical.

### RE:

The pupils will be learning about different religious and non-religious groups and their belief in God. Pupils will have the opportunity to raise questions about the nature and existence of God and also consider why people do or don't believe in God and the impact that might have on the way they live their everyday life.

### Art: Creative Week

In art, the children will take part in creative week from the 20th November where they will use printing skills to create a final outcome linked to a winter theme.

### P.E : Volleyball

The children will be learning the skills involved when playing volleyball such as: digging, serving and volleying.

### PSHE: Feelings

All the children will be learning about different feelings and emotions such as; worried, scared, embarrassed, moody, hopeful, happy and sad.

### Computing:

The children will use ICT to present their work using advanced features of software and tools, showing an increasing degree of skill. They will also create non-linear presentations for a specific purpose using more advanced features. Finally they will evaluate and adapt individual features to enhance their final presentation.