

EAST SHEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR SIX CURRICULUM BULLETIN SPRING TERM



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a good holiday and enjoyed much time with family and friends. May we take this opportunity to thank you for our Christmas messages and gifts – they were extremely generous and very much appreciated.

This is the parent information bulletin for the Spring Term 2024. In this bulletin, we aim to supply you with more detailed information concerning the work being covered by your children in the coming months.

English

The children will continue to read and analyse a variety of texts, including newspaper articles, letters and classic fiction. Much of our work will focus on the skills needed for different forms of writing and the children will be critically analysing their own writing and assessing it according to given criteria, including the use of more complex grammar and punctuation. They will focus on the skills required in answering questions about texts, in preparation for the SATs. The assessment criteria for writing can be found [here](#).

The children will continue to be given spellings at the beginning of each half-term and will be tested in their groups – unless otherwise told. The spelling sheet is also available on our Year 6 page on the school website. It is really important that children are still learning their spellings weekly. We are hopeful that Spelling Shed will really help engage children with this as the weekly assignments set match the children's weekly word lists. In preparation for the spelling, punctuation and grammar SATs test, further emphasis will be placed on understanding of grammar and punctuation during lessons. In addition to this, four revision words will be tested each week in preparation for the SATs spelling test. The children need to learn 14 spellings each week.

Attenborough: spelling test/lesson every **Monday**

Curie: spelling test/lesson every **Tuesday**

Darwin: spelling test/lesson every **Thursday**

The children are expected to read at home daily during the week (at least 30 minutes) and should record this in their reading diary, which is checked on a Thursday.

Mathematics

The children will continue to develop their mathematical skills during lessons. The work this term will focus on the different areas of maths: ratio; algebra; decimals, fractions and percentages; area, perimeter and volume and statistics. There will also be revision and tests in preparation for SATs. Weekly homework will continue to be set on Fridays and will be due in on Thursdays. We also encourage the children to practise their basic number facts regularly and there will be weeks where we send home extra paper-based homework.

Science

First, we will continue to learn about 'Electricity' in which we will study circuits, draw circuit diagrams, consider what affects the brightness of bulbs or the volume of buzzers, and how different components function.

Our second focus in science this term will be our topic 'Animals Including Humans' in which we will consider how humans stay healthy with the correct diet and exercise and look at the circulatory system in more detail. We will also consider the effects of some drugs on the body.

History: The Victorians

The children will be looking at a significant turning point in British history, namely the Industrial Revolution. They will use primary and secondary sources to study the social and environmental impact of these major changes during the Victorian era such as city growth, child labour, home life, education, public health, trade and the Empire, transport and inventions. They will also be learning about Queen Victoria.

Linked to our history learning, we are going on a trip to Holly Lodge to visit their Victorian pharmacy. The trip is during the morning, and we will return to school for lunch time.

6T – **Tuesday 6th February**

6H – **Wednesday 8th February**

6K – **Thursday 9th February**

Geography: The Victorians and Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Supporting our historical learning, we will study the geography of the British Empire and identify changes in the local area since the Victorian era. We will use atlases, digital mapping and develop our knowledge of four and six figure grid references. We will consider the impact that the Industrial Revolution had on East Sheen and how a growing population and the advent of the railway changed the area.

Our second geography focus of the Spring term, we will be looking at geographical regions, key topographical features, tectonics and land use patterns. Our human and physical geography will focus on volcanoes and earthquakes and what it is like to live near a volcano. We will develop geographical skills through the use of maps, atlases, globes and compasses.

PSHE

In PSHE, we discuss key themes such as celebrating difference, values in sport and bullying. Linked with this, all children in Year 6 will take part in the annual Junior Citizen Project at Holly Lodge in Richmond Park on **Thursday 21st March.**

RE

We will be focusing on Christianity. Our key question will be: Is anything eternal?

Art

The children will be learning about the work of William Morris. They will have the opportunity to observe and discuss a range of his pattern and design work. Their own artwork will be based on this theme. We will then look at the works of LS Lowry and how his art links to the Industrial Revolution.

PE and Games

Children have PE twice a week: an afternoon Wednesday session run by teachers and Friday morning sessions run by NS Sport. It is very important that children have the correct kit at all times. Children will be permitted to wear their correct PE kit all day on Wednesday and Friday.

Computing

Through the year, we constantly refresh our knowledge and skills in e-safety. We will learn how to navigate the internet in an informed, safe and respectful way.

Unit 3 Data Handling: Big Data 1 Before half-term, children will learn about barcodes, QR codes and RFID.
Unit 4 History of Computers After half-term, children will look back in time at how computers have evolved and design a computer of the future.

Music

This term, children will continue to be taught music by specialist teacher, Miss Imogen Ridge. As well as weekly singing assemblies and regular singing in class, children will listen to, perform and explore a wide range of music. In Year 6 this term, the children will be exploring sound sources, lyrics and melody.

French

This term Year 6 will learn to talk about their daily routine, times about their daily routine and what they have for breakfast. They will be given the opportunity to write to their French penpals about the details of a typical day. The children will continue to practise all 4 skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing) and will be working towards their Silver Lingua Badge Award. They'll also learn about how Easter is celebrated in France.

Thinking Schools

The children will continue to use tools from their 'Thinking School' toolkit, including thinking maps, thinking hats and habits of mind. The 'Thinking School' methodologies aim to equip children with the thinking skills needed to effectively tackle problems across and beyond the curriculum, both at school and in the future, through deep and critical thinking.

SATs

Please note that the children will be sitting their SATs tests at the start of the Summer term, starting on **Monday 13th May** and finishing **Thursday 16th May**. It is very important that all pupils are in attendance for these tests.

As well as My Maths, reading and spelling, we will start occasionally sending home some additional reading and maths homework.

Much of the work undertaken between now and then will be focused on preparing for the tests and therefore full attendance and punctuality **at 8:50am** are of paramount importance. We shall be reminding the children of the need to be well rested and therefore able to give the work the necessary focus and effort required, but we would also appreciate your help in encouraging them with this.

We hope you have found this information useful but do not hesitate to see us with any further questions you may have.

With best wishes,

Year 6 team