

Year Six Autumn Term 2019 Curriculum Newsletter 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

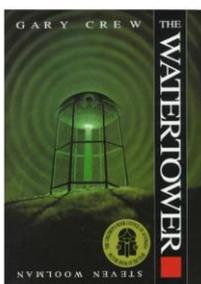
I hope you have all enjoyed the half term holidays?

I am sure the children enjoyed the rest after an extremely busy 1st half term: getting used to the reality of life in Y6: enjoying some fantastic learning experiences from our 'Save our Saplings' field quest; to building bug houses with their buddies; to meeting an Arctic research scientist and asking him about global warming; PLUS the truly amazing experience of Robinwood and having to explore their first batch of practice SATS papers!

There will be no let-up in this next seven weeks. Our topic work turns back the clock, as we compare and contrast 2 ancient civilizations that were around during the same period of history: The Egyptians & Stone age Man. Even though we looked at the Egyptians last year, we will approach from a totally different angle this time: our main objective is to become fascinated in how different these co-existing civilizations were through comparing their buildings, culture, diet and how their communities were structured. This will give us the chance to share some learning with Y5 as we prepare research, art work and Design & Technology artefacts for display in our 'Living Museum,' which you will be invited to visit before Christmas!

In **English** the children will create 1st page newspaper reports on their 'The Robinwood Adventure': this will be created on Google Documents or in good, old fashioned long hand!

We didn't even start to read 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio last half term, as it was just too busy! I started the shorter picture book 'The Watertower' by Gary Woolman



Hopefully we will get on quicker with this! It will inspire even the most reluctant writer to think and become creative and we will study how writers use different structures to create coherence and impact and how they use different techniques to make a text come alive. We will use their ideas as a start point for our own creative writing asking: Can you describe how the character feels, what do his eyes tell us? What would be an alternative ending to this book?

I will also continue to do revision and consolidation exercises for grammar, punctuation each week; as well as the weekly spellings and related spellings exercises.

In **Maths** this half term, I will continue with consolidation and revision. We will look at fractions, ratio and proportion; decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions.

As I did last half term, I intend to look at the application of maths into problem solving (using and applying of maths) because I feel this lateral thinking approach for the use of pure maths is essential to nurture and encourage progress and deeper understanding.

Science

In science this half term we intend to investigate 'Light & Sight' and will learn about how light travels and how we see things. We will also learn that shiny or reflective surfaces alter the direction in which light travels and investigate the shapes of shadows, and relate this to light travelling in straight lines. We will conclude this very interesting subject with an inspirational trip to the Science Museum in Bradford where we will get the chance to see something amazing and slightly gory! (more details soon!)

PE will continue to be on a Friday afternoon and will be delivered by Inspiration Tree.

ICT we will continue to look at coding and also create a class BLOG!

PPA Cover (Thursday afternoons): This is my afternoon for planning, preparation and assessment and the class will continue to have French with Madame Vert who reports, '*Year 6 children will learn to count to 100 in French. We will revisit adjectival agreement when describing ourselves and others, meeting the irregular verb, 'être = to be'. The focus will be sports and hobbies, enabling the children to talk about their free time, using personal pronouns with the regular verb, 'jouer', but also the irregular verb, 'faire'.*

Also that afternoon, Mrs Jacques and Mrs Wilcock will continue to deliver music, (following the Charanga Scheme). RE will also be taught through a topic on LIGHT. It is an apt topic to do at this time of year and will look at the festivals of light that take place around the world during December and discover their religious origins. It will include designing and creating a Diwali candle holder and a trip to St John's church to look at the Christian Festival of Light on Thursday 5th December

HOME LEARNING:

I will set homework each week and it will reflect the learning completed during that school week.

- **Wednesday:** I will continue to set 'First News' comprehensions due for the following Wednesday. It is very useful for the children to do a 'First News' comprehension as homework; it is excellent practice for their reading SATS exam. It is always marked in

a group, with discussion about answers which encourages progress in this important skill.

- **Friday:** Spelling homework, 10 spellings to learn for a test the following Friday.
- **Friday:** Maths Homework due in Monday.

Finally if you have any artefacts or expertise in our area of learning this half term, please let me know or bring it in to share with the class.

Likewise if you have any queries or wish to discuss any issues regarding your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office or at g.cumberland@benrhydding.bradford.sch.uk

Diary Dates:

- **Trip to Otley Science Festival:** Wednesday 13th November to see 'The Everest Lab'
- **Trip to Bradford Science Museum:** Wednesday 4th December
- **Trip to St John's:** Thursday 5th December
- **Parents Evenings:** 12 & 13th November
- **PTA Christmas Fayre:** Sunday 1st December
- **PTA School Disco:** 21st November
- **KEY STAGE 2 CAROL SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH:** 2-3pm on Thursday 12th December
- **School closes for Christmas Holidays:** Friday 20th December.

Yours Sincerely, Mrs Cumberland

