



'Being Better Every Day'

Thursday 3rd April 2025

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter – Term 5

We are excited to share our fifth curriculum newsletter of the school year! We are starting our final two-term unit of the school year and we are so excited to share it with you!

In **Term 5 and 6** , our unit title will be

'It's a Smuggler's Life for me.'

There is a big focus on **History** in term 5.

*In our history lessons this term we will be learning about smuggling in Sussex. We will consider what the **causes and consequences** of this illegal trade in goods were as well as analysing some of the **similarities and differences** between the smuggling trade during the 18th century and modern day. We will learn about how smuggling in the 18th and 19th century has had a lasting impact on our local history and was responsible for the formation of HM coastguard in the 1800s.*

During this unit, your child will attempt to answer the concept question:

'True or False? Smuggling is always wrong.'

(We have attached a 'Knowledge Organiser' for this unit, providing an overview of the topic; this should be a useful resource for pupils and parents.)



Home Learning Project

For each unit, we will ask your child to complete a home-learning project. We ask that every child has a go at completing a project that can be brought into school. For this unit we have listed possible ideas below.

- **Make a boat – you could use lolly sticks, paper, card or anything you like!**
- **Design a coat with secret pockets to hide items in. What would it look like? How would it work? Would it be traditional or modern?**
- **Create a wanted poster for a well-known smuggler- you can make up the name!**
- **Learn a sea shanty that a smuggler might sing**

Use a map to look up all the smuggler's routes. Can you find any that were near here?

Alternatively, your child may want to do something completely different! Your child may wish to complete their project by themselves or need your support in completing their project – either is fine and we look forward to see them.



We have also included a list of websites you could explore at home to help your child with their learning:

Useful Websites:

<http://www.smuggling.co.uk/history.html>

www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/Smugglers-Wreckers/

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2cqrwx/revision/3>

<http://ryemuseum.co.uk/smuggling-in-rye-on-romney-marsh/>

Home learning projects should be completed by the **week beginning Monday 19th May 2025**. If you have any questions about the home learning project, please contact your child's class teacher.

Reading

The children have been practicing for their SATs tests by reading a range of different texts. It would be great if, during the Easter holidays, they could continue to read regularly as this will help to increase their confidence and their fluency and speed.

Reading is the single most important skill that children will learn and we expect every child to read at home every day. In Year 6, we expect every child to read with an adult for a minimum of 20 minutes every day. Reading takes on many forms and can take place just about anywhere, including the reading of labels and signs, and in newspapers, magazines and comics. Parents and carers should record the daily reading activity in your child's reading record. During this preparation time, reading regularly is essential as the children will need a lot of stamina whilst doing their tests and they will need to read a lot in a short space of time.

Homework

Additionally, we would like the children to be practising their times tables every day for at least 20 minutes. They all have an individual account for **Times Table Rock Stars**, which they are expected to use for this. The aim is for the children to be confident with their times tables.

Additional Homework Tasks

The after-school maths club will continue up until (and including) the week before SATS and we will continue to support the needs of the children by revisiting and practising areas of maths during our daily lessons. An additional homework grid has been provided, and the tasks on this are optional.

The children are also expected to visit websites to practise skills and to frequently complete examples from the CGP revision books we have provided. We will be setting pages from the books to complete over Easter for each individual pupil.

PE

This term, our PE lessons will continue to take place on **Friday** afternoons.

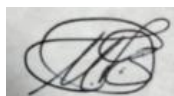
We hope your child will enjoy this term in Year 6.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Elms

Parks class



Mr Bardot

Izzard class

KNOWLEDGE – EQUALITY – DETERMINATION – ACHIEVEMENT