

Year 6

2nd Half Spring Term 2019

Update



February, 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a restful, relaxing and enjoyable half term. Included below is some general information about the coming second half of the Spring Term.

Classroom Climate:

We must stress that we will aim to continue promoting a calm, pleasant and enjoyable learning environment for all pupils. In addition, we will also continue to promote the well-being of our students and try to ensure that they feel safe and happy, both in themselves, and with those around them. This supports all the work we do with our important core values and prepares them for secondary school.

Homework:

With regard to homework can we remind you that we expect Year 6 pupils to spend **at least 20/30 minutes** each evening to consolidate their learning. Homework will be set, Monday to Friday, in accordance with the following timetable, although we must stress that it is subject to flexibility from time to time.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading• Writing (Due Wed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading• Maths (due Fri)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading• Spellings and Spelling Sentences• Big Talk

All students have a homework diary and reading record which we ask you sign off each evening.

Curriculum Updates

Curriculum information below will hopefully give an overview of the learning taking place throughout the half term.

English:

During this half term we will be focussing on the following:

Reading:

During the course of the remainder of the term, we will be reading both fiction and non-fiction texts and accurately retrieving information. All involve both written and verbal responses where children will have to answer literal as well as inferential and deductive questions, providing detail to their responses. Most important is supporting your child's reading as much as possible by hearing them read and by sharing and enjoying books together. Please ensure that your children are reading for at least 10-15 minutes daily at home, preferable aloud to you on some occasions.

Author Of The Term:



This will be Anne Holm and her book 'I Am David', a book we have already started and will be continuing with.

Writing:

We hope to further develop the children's writing this half term through several interesting and enjoyable units, namely:

- **Stories With Flashbacks or Timeshifts.** Here pupils will use the stimulus of a short film script to construct their own short story. Creativity is key and to support their final pieces we will learn about key narrative techniques, eg) creating settings, using characterisation appropriately, powerful dialogue and developing atmosphere.
- **One-Sided Persuasive Arguments (Letters).** Pupils will construct an argument to persuade others of their point of view and present the case to the class or a group through a more formal letter.
- **Narrative Poetry.** Pupils will study a lengthy classic poem entitled 'The Highwayman'. They will be encouraged to convey personal responses to the poetry, read, write and perform poetry from the poem and develop characterisation and atmosphere from the poem itself.

Through the above we will also focus our attention on better sentence construction and accurate punctuation.

Handwriting:

We will continue to practice handwriting, really focussing on pupils joining accurately and translating this to their regular writing.

Spelling:

Each week there will be a spelling focus. This could be a spelling pattern or it might be spellings linked to either error in class or key national curriculum lists. Spellings should be practiced at home at the weekends and applied to complex sentences. Pupils will be tested the following week.

Maths:

Throughout the term we will be working towards enhancing our students' knowledge and understanding of the following through our new scheme of work 'Maths No Problem'. The main focus this half term will be on (although we will work on other concepts at times):

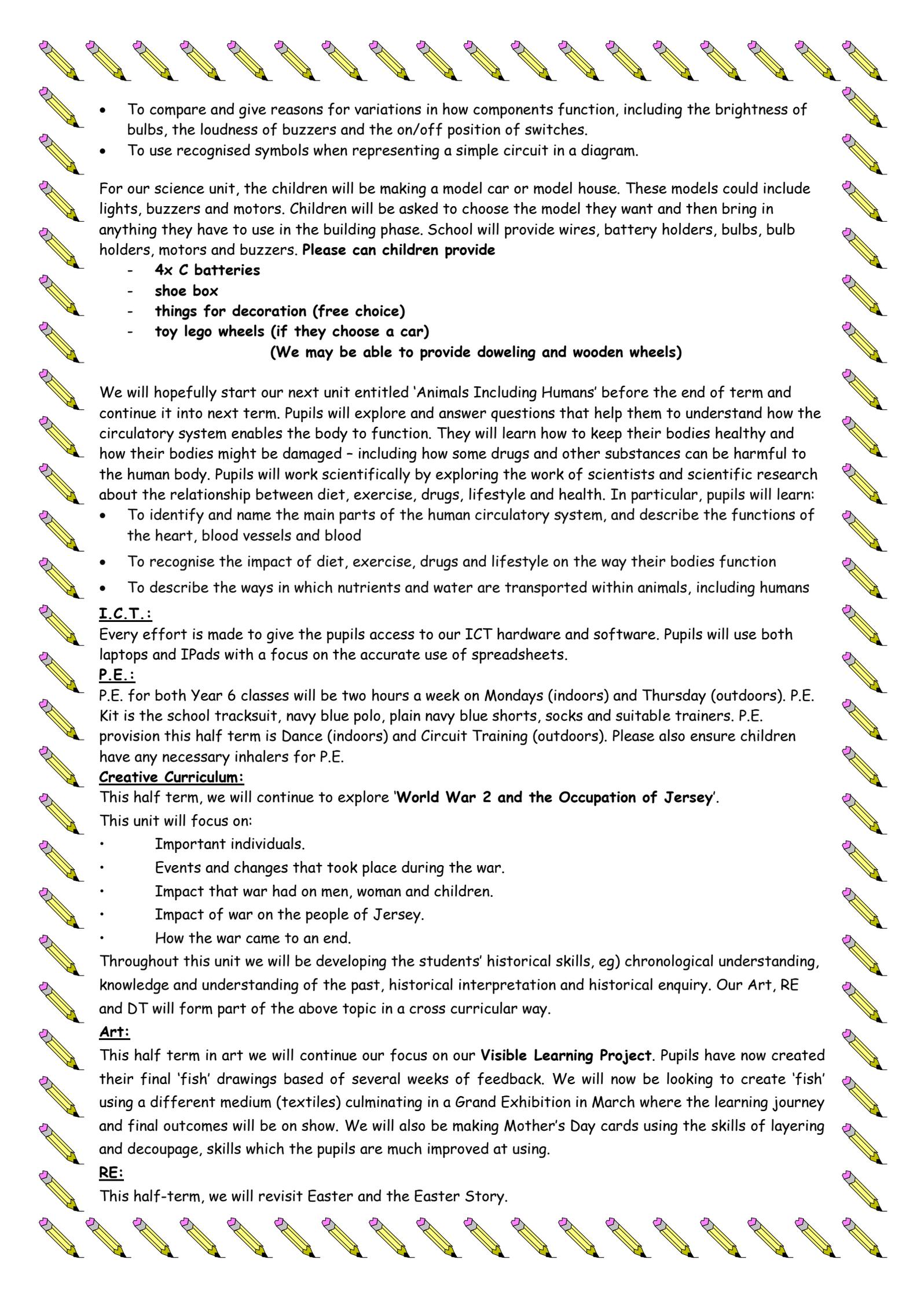
- To multiply decimals by whole numbers using a variety of methods, eg) partitioning.
- To divide decimals using number bonds.
- To multiply decimals by a 2-digit whole number.
- To convert common measurements into metres, centimetres and millimetres.
- To use knowledge of decimals and fractions to help convert units.
- To convert metres into kilometres as units of measure.
- To convert units of mass from grams to kilograms using decimals and fractions.
- To convert units of volume from millilitres to litres.
- To convert units of time from minutes to hours; to represent time using 24-hour notation.
- To solve word problems involving the four operations.

In addition to the above we will be making every effort to develop our students' mental maths skills on a daily basis, ie) the ability to think quickly so practice with times tables recall would be very helpful. Homework this half term will continue to have more of a focus on 'fluency' to support this.

Science:

This half term we will continue our science unit of study on 'Electricity'. Pupils will be constructing simple series circuits to help them to answer questions about what happens when they try different components, for example, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors. They will learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using recognised symbols. Pupils will also be taught to take the necessary precautions for working safely with electricity. In addition, pupils will have to work scientifically by identifying the effect of changing one component at a time in a circuit. In particular, we will learn:

- To associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit.

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- To compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.
 - To use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

For our science unit, the children will be making a model car or model house. These models could include lights, buzzers and motors. Children will be asked to choose the model they want and then bring in anything they have to use in the building phase. School will provide wires, battery holders, bulbs, bulb holders, motors and buzzers. **Please can children provide**

- **4x C batteries**
- **shoe box**
- **things for decoration (free choice)**
- **toy lego wheels (if they choose a car)**

(We may be able to provide doweling and wooden wheels)

We will hopefully start our next unit entitled 'Animals Including Humans' before the end of term and continue it into next term. Pupils will explore and answer questions that help them to understand how the circulatory system enables the body to function. They will learn how to keep their bodies healthy and how their bodies might be damaged - including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body. Pupils will work scientifically by exploring the work of scientists and scientific research about the relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health. In particular, pupils will learn:

- To identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- To recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- To describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

I.C.T.:

Every effort is made to give the pupils access to our ICT hardware and software. Pupils will use both laptops and iPads with a focus on the accurate use of spreadsheets.

P.E.:

P.E. for both Year 6 classes will be two hours a week on Mondays (indoors) and Thursday (outdoors). P.E. Kit is the school tracksuit, navy blue polo, plain navy blue shorts, socks and suitable trainers. P.E. provision this half term is Dance (indoors) and Circuit Training (outdoors). Please also ensure children have any necessary inhalers for P.E.

Creative Curriculum:

This half term, we will continue to explore '**World War 2 and the Occupation of Jersey**'.

This unit will focus on:

- Important individuals.
- Events and changes that took place during the war.
- Impact that war had on men, woman and children.
- Impact of war on the people of Jersey.
- How the war came to an end.

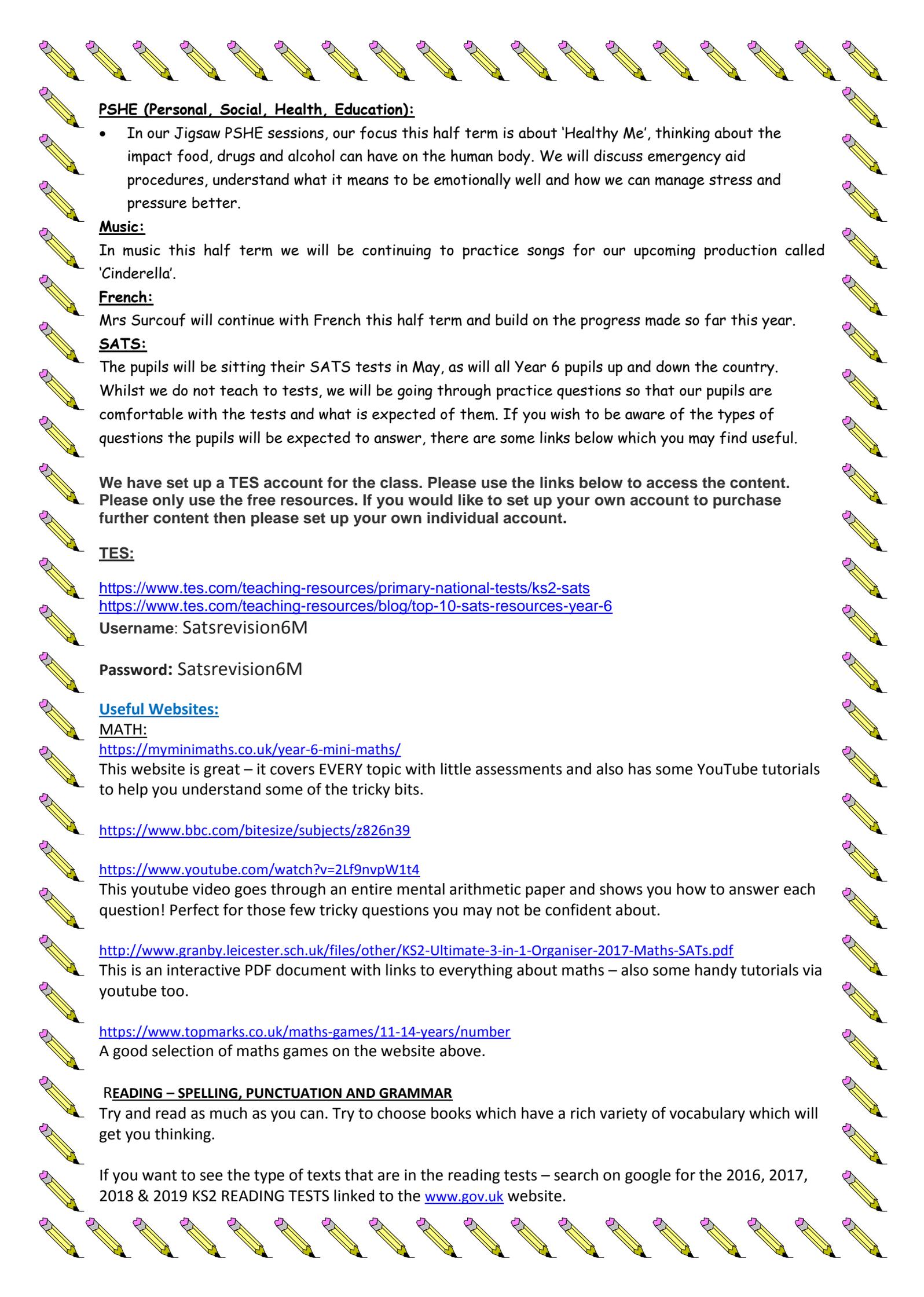
Throughout this unit we will be developing the students' historical skills, eg) chronological understanding, knowledge and understanding of the past, historical interpretation and historical enquiry. Our Art, RE and DT will form part of the above topic in a cross curricular way.

Art:

This half term in art we will continue our focus on our **Visible Learning Project**. Pupils have now created their final 'fish' drawings based of several weeks of feedback. We will now be looking to create 'fish' using a different medium (textiles) culminating in a Grand Exhibition in March where the learning journey and final outcomes will be on show. We will also be making Mother's Day cards using the skills of layering and decoupage, skills which the pupils are much improved at using.

RE:

This half-term, we will revisit Easter and the Easter Story.



PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education):

- In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions, our focus this half term is about 'Healthy Me', thinking about the impact food, drugs and alcohol can have on the human body. We will discuss emergency aid procedures, understand what it means to be emotionally well and how we can manage stress and pressure better.

Music:

In music this half term we will be continuing to practice songs for our upcoming production called 'Cinderella'.

French:

Mrs Surcouf will continue with French this half term and build on the progress made so far this year.

SATS:

The pupils will be sitting their SATS tests in May, as will all Year 6 pupils up and down the country. Whilst we do not teach to tests, we will be going through practice questions so that our pupils are comfortable with the tests and what is expected of them. If you wish to be aware of the types of questions the pupils will be expected to answer, there are some links below which you may find useful.

We have set up a TES account for the class. Please use the links below to access the content. Please only use the free resources. If you would like to set up your own account to purchase further content then please set up your own individual account.

TES:

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/primary-national-tests/ks2-sats>
<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/blog/top-10-sats-resources-year-6>

Username: Satsrevision6M

Password: Satsrevision6M

Useful Websites:

MATH:

<https://myminimaths.co.uk/year-6-mini-maths/>

This website is great – it covers EVERY topic with little assessments and also has some YouTube tutorials to help you understand some of the tricky bits.

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/z826n39>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Lf9nvpW1t4>

This youtube video goes through an entire mental arithmetic paper and shows you how to answer each question! Perfect for those few tricky questions you may not be confident about.

<http://www.granby.leicester.sch.uk/files/other/KS2-Ultimate-3-in-1-Organiser-2017-Maths-SATs.pdf>

This is an interactive PDF document with links to everything about maths – also some handy tutorials via youtube too.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/11-14-years/number>

A good selection of maths games on the website above.

READING – SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR

Try and read as much as you can. Try to choose books which have a rich variety of vocabulary which will get you thinking.

If you want to see the type of texts that are in the reading tests – search on google for the 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019 KS2 READING TESTS linked to the www.gov.uk website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-tests-2018-english-reading-test-materials>

You'll find the text, questions and even the answers here too!

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zhrrd2p>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

These links are all activities that will help students learn while having fun!

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn> (BBC Bitesize KS2 – updated site)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11years/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11years//mental-maths>

<http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

<http://www.satspapers.org/ks2english2016onwards.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zprrd2p> (English KS2 BBC Bitesize Reading)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zhrrd2p> (English KS2 BBC Bitesize Writing)

and don't forget Mathletics - <http://uk.mathletics.com/>

Other Useful Websites:

Literacy

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f>

<http://www.funenglishgames.com/>

Maths

<https://nrich.maths.org/>

<http://mathszone.co.uk/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy>.

https://www.mathplayground.com/quick_calculate.html

All subjects

<https://www.busythings.co.uk/> (Login = home8972 Password = crazy8362)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk>

Diary Dates:

Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	Swimathon
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Thursday 21 st March	Visible Learning Project Grand Exhibition

Parental Help:

We are as ever, very reliant on your support both at home and in school. If you would like to offer your valuable support in class or on school trips, please let us know.

Finally:

As always, if you have any concerns or questions, do please get in touch. Our contact details are identified below.

Many thanks,

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Mr Murphy (d.murphy@lamoye.sch.je)