



## HIGHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents,

### **Year 6 Class Newsletter Spring I**

We hope you had a lovely, festive holiday and are ready for an action-packed 2024.

#### **Topic**

Our topic this half term is 'The Body in Question.' This has a strong science focus, allowing for an in-depth study of the human body. We will look at: the human circulatory system and its functions; skeletons and muscles; and the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the human body. We hope to have a visit from a medical expert who will lead the children in discussing issues surrounding transplant operations. We will also examine the science of evolution and look at how humans and other species have evolved and adapted to their environment. Our visit this term is to The Old Operating Theatre, the oldest surviving surgical theatre in Europe. Each class is visiting separately, and letter about it is coming your way shortly.

If you would like to borrow or buy books for your child on our topic there are good suggestions here:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/topics/science-maths-computing/healthy-humans/>

#### **English**

In English our key text will be the superb fiction novel 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman. The children will be writing: a 'time-slip story' in which the main character travels back in time to visit the studio of Leonardo da Vinci; a persuasive letter discussing the importance of PE time in the curriculum; a news report on a breakthrough in transplant surgery and a diary entry from the point of view of an organ transplant patient.

#### **SPAG**

This term we will be reinforcing the use of the grammatical terminology for Year 6, including the terms synonym, antonym, hyphen, colon and semi-colon. We will be practising recognising and using different punctuation marks, including the dash and the hyphen (and knowing the difference between them). We will be focusing on modal verbs, determiners and prepositions as well as continuing to investigate a range of spelling rules and how words are related to each other in the English language.

#### **Reading and other Homework**

We continue to ask that children read for at least 30 minutes every day. Reading for pleasure has a huge impact on your child's academic attainment, in maths and the foundation subjects, as well as in English. As always, English and Maths homework is set via Google Classroom, on SpellShed and on MyMaths each week on a Friday. We will be focusing on spelling this term and your support in encouraging children to play the games set on SpellShed daily would be much appreciated. It will make a significant difference!

#### **Haringey Book Awards 2024 (Biblio-buzz)**



Co-Headteachers: William Dean & Rebecca Lewis Highgate Primary School, Storey Road, London N6 4ED

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We have already written to you about the Haringey Book Awards 2024 (Biblio-buzz). Six fabulous books have been short-listed by Haringey librarians for the children to read. The children will be working through these at their own pace over the next 2 months and will then vote for their favourite book. These votes will be combined with those from other schools and the winning book will be announced at an exciting event in Alexandra Palace on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, which Year 6 will attend. Children are encouraged to bring their book home to read in the evening and at weekends. Please help to make sure that these books don't get left behind at home on school days as we do have regular quiet reading time in the classroom.

If you'd like to buy a copy of any of the books for your child, please do! The list of books is available here: <https://www.alexandrapalace.com/creative-learning/creative-learning-event/biblio-buzz-2024/>

### **Maths**

In Maths we will look at converting measurements before moving onto studying ratio and even dipping our toes into the world of algebra. As always, please build in some time for your child to practise times tables. The aim is for children to be able to recall any table up to 12x12 within 2-3 seconds.

### **PE**

In PE we will be developing our basketball skills as well as practising some yoga! Please make sure children wear suitable clothing for PE on Tuesdays and Fridays.

### **Key Dates**

Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	6RP Old Operating Theatre trip
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February (evening)	Headteachers' Quiz
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	6EJ Old Operating Theatre trip

As always, we look forward to a busy and fulfilling half term. If you wish to discuss anything with us, large or small, then we are available at the beginning and end of the school day as well as on email.

With best wishes,

**The Year 6 Team**



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