



## Class 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term One 2022

Class Teacher—Mrs Eager

### Topic

Our History and Geography topic for the whole of the Summer term is Coal Mining, where we will explore how the coal mining industry had an effect on our local area. This will link with the Science topic of 'Rocks, Soils and Fossils'. Although our main themes will be on History, Geography and Science, we will continue to encompass other aspects of Art, Music and Technology into the unit.

### English

Pupils will continue to study different elements of GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling). This will help to raise the level of their writing. The children will be developing their comprehension skills of reading for information during shared reading. They also have access to a wide range of non-fiction books from our class reading corner for quiet reading and independent topic research.

### English Fiction

This half-term, we will be reading 'The Fossil Girl' by Catherine Brighton, a story based on the life of Mary Anning's fossil discoveries. We will also use the classic text, 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King, as a class novel, to engage the children in writing an adventure story.

### Non-Fiction

The children will be reading information texts on the theme of coal mining (including Victorian child labour), rocks and fossils as well as newspaper articles.

We will also read a variety of biographies about Mary Anning and 'The Rock Factory - a story about Rocks and Stones' by Jacqui Bailey

### Writing

This half-term we will be Writing an adventure story about a child working in the coal mines, including details to evoke the historical setting and make it more vivid. The children will develop the skills to sequence events clearly and show how one event leads to another, whilst using a range of openers and conjunctions to show changes in time and place.

They will also write a persuasive speech from the point of view of a child working in the coal mines about safety, linking their points persuasively and selecting the style and vocabulary appropriate to the writer and listener/reader.

Finally, they will be writing a newspaper article about Mary Anning, using the third person narrative and containing facts and opinions, including quotes from other characters in her life story.

### Science

Our Science topic this half-term will be 'Rocks, Soils and Fossils'. The children will learn how to compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties; describe, in simple terms, how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock; and recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

## Mathematics

The focus for the first three weeks of this half-term will be on **Decimals**. The children will continue to divide 1 and 2-digit numbers by 10 or 100; recognise hundredths as decimals or on a place value grid; compare, order and round decimals, as well as being able to recognise common fractions in their decimal form.

We will then spend two weeks looking at **Measurement: Money**. The children will learn how to recognise money amounts; put them into the correct order; round to the nearest £; convert between pounds and pence; add, subtract and give change.

The final week of the term we will start to look at **Measurement: Time**. The children will learn how to accurately read the time on an analogue clock to the nearest 1 and 5 minutes; use the terms 'am' and 'pm' correctly, and recap the 24-hour clock.

*(this unit will continue after the half-term break)*

Each week children will have opportunity to develop their number fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills. We will also continue to focus on the knowledge and application of **times tables**, where the children will be able to answer multiplication questions that require rapid mental recall as well as applying this knowledge to related division facts.

The Year 4 children will be taking the Multiplication Tables Check in June. We will be practising our rapid recall of the times tables each day, to improve speed and accuracy.

## History and Geography

The children will be studying the impact of the Coal Mining Industry on the local area, in our History and Geography lessons. They will be researching what coal is, why it is important nationally, and how this industry affected people in the local area. This will include a visit to The National Coal Mining Museum in Wakefield, on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022. We will also explore the human and physical geography related to this area, using maps and directional language to plot a journey from a local mine to a large power station. We will continue this topic in the last half-term.

## Art and Design

The children will use our History and Science units as drivers for the Art and Design units. We will do observational drawing of real-life objects relating to coal mines, rocks and fossils. We will also try to re-create a fossil using clay and shaping tools. We will learn how to make a coal mining related mechanism (a lift-shaft or pulley wagon) using Wood, glue gun, string, elastic bands to help the children to understand how the miners and coal were moved from the coal shaft.

## PSHE

This half-term's Jigsaw topic is 'Relationships'. The children will be learning how to explain different points of view on a key issue; express their own opinion; listen attentively to the views of others and show understanding by joining in and responding; and reflect on their relationships and how to show people how they feel.

### Religious Education

To link with the PSHE Jigsaw programme, we will be following the 'Discovery R.E.' scheme. Each year group will study Christianity and another World Faith throughout the year.

This half-term we will return to our study on Judaism, learning to understand how Jews show their commitment to God, comparing their practices in order to explore which shows the most commitment.

### Modern Foreign Languages (French)

This term we will learn about the names of members of the family and pets. We will develop these skills by using conversational French and practical sessions, including the use of songs and games, to help develop a love and understanding of this language.

### Music

The children will continue with their music lessons this term. The year 4 children are learning to play the Ukulele with Mr Smith, who works for Doncaster Music Service. The year 3 children are learning to play the Glockenspiel with Mrs Winstanley. We hope to be able to put on a concert at the end of the year for parents to see their children perform with their instruments. This is dependent upon covid regulations at the time.

### PE kits

This half-term, we will have P.E. lessons on Monday and Tuesday each week. Children need to bring PE kits to school on **Monday**, in preparation for their lessons. The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear. All children must have appropriate PE kit and should not wear any jewellery including earrings. Our focus this half-term will be **Tennis** and **Orienteering**.

### School times.

Class 6 start their day at 8.50am. I will come out that time, when the children will need to line up in front of the Class 6 cone. Mrs Winstanley will then escort the children into class, where they will be able to start a morning activity. I will be available to speak to parents about any urgent issues at that time. Home time pick up is at 3:05pm. The gates will be unlocked at 2:55pm to allow parents to wait inside the playground. We will bring the children out and line them up at the Class 6 cone and ask them to point out their grown up. Once we see you, your child will be free to join you. If you need to speak to me, please wait until all the other children have been handed over to their parents, so we can concentrate on this aspect of their safety.

### Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term. Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading record and reading book to school each day. Spellings and times tables will be given out on a Friday for your child to learn ready for a test on the following Friday.

### **Visits and Family Learning Sessions**

Due to current restrictions, we will not be having any family learning sessions or educational visits until further notice. Our educational visit to the National Coal Mining Museum in Wakefield is on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

### **Learning Behaviours**

All children at our school have a right to learn and reach their full potential. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We have also introduced a traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

### **School Contact Details**

New Pastures Primary School  
Upper School  
Doncaster Road  
Mexborough  
South Yorkshire  
S64 0LT

Tel:- (01709) 583271

Fax:- (01709) 578092

Headteacher: Mrs P. Belnavis  
Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy

**If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.**