

Year 6 Newsletter



Summer 1

Dear Families,

We are looking forward to a busy Summer term and will be working hard towards the upcoming SATs.

In science, our focus will be on evolution and how animals, including humans, have had to evolve and adapt over time. Our studies will be rooted around the works of Charles Darwin, as we really drill down into the great shift in understanding that followed *On the Origins of Species*.

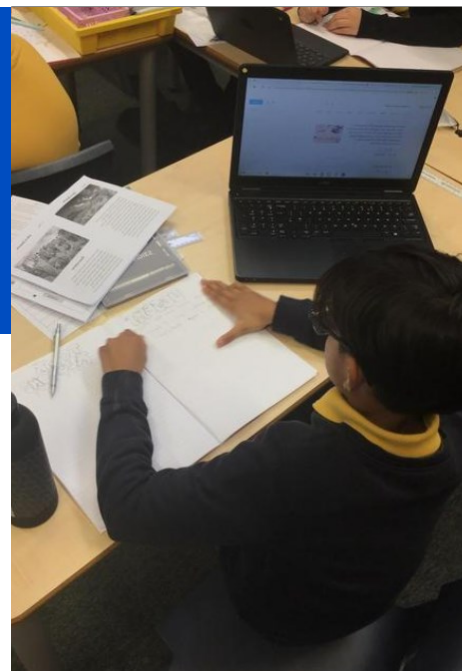
In history, we will explore the rich culture and sophisticated technical practices of the ancient Mayans. By interrogating artefacts rigorously and objectively, we will begin to build a picture of the fascinating Central American civilization.

We will also be working on getting the children ready for their residential trip to France by developing our French conversational skills.

This term is a really great chance for children to practise mindful learning, asking themselves which areas of the curriculum they know and on which they still need to work. CGP guides can be used to help fill these gaps at home, but children can feel free to bring in areas of study they would like to practise into school. We are always ready to help.

If you would like to explore past SAT papers with a view to becoming familiar with the format, many can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials>



Curriculum

Theme: Evolution

This term, we have a Science and History based theme. We will be learning about Darwin as well as The Maya.

English

- * SATs revision

Maths

- * Fractions and decimals
- * Ratio and proportion
- * SATs revision

Science

- * Evolution and inheritance
- * How have species evolved and survived?
- * How have we understood evolution?

RSHE

- * My rights and responsibilities

Computing

- * Programming sensors on Microbits using block languages and Python

Art

- * Painting / sketching

PE

- * Athletics

School Value

This half term, we will focus on the value of 'respect.' We will learn about respect for ourselves and respect for other people and our world. We will focus on respect for our environment and how small actions can protect our local and global environment.

We uphold every person as a unique and worthy individual. Each should be empowered to function and thrive in their roles, whatever those may be.

P.E. and Music

Year 6 will be having PE lessons on a Tuesday afternoon this term. Children need to come to school with the

correct PE kit (list is available here: <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/uniform-information/>).

Due to the unpredictable weather, children should bring jogging bottoms as well as spare trainers.

All children will participate in weekly music lessons with our musicians in residence on Thursday afternoons;

children have chosen which instrument they would like to learn.

If children have been given instruments to practise at home, please support them in bringing their instrument to school each week.

Home Learning

Homework will be sent out weekly, on a Wednesday for Kahlo and Thursdays for King.

Homework will consist primarily of pages to complete into the CGP SATs revision guides and a set of spellings to learn. These spellings help embed phonetic rules that may appear in the SATs. The words will be tested on the day of hand-in.

CGP workbooks are also expected to be brought into school on the day of hand-in so we can check if work has been completed. Any homework not submitted on the due date will need to be completed at lunchtime. (Photograph of completed work can be evidenced on Google Classroom if preferred).

Suggested websites

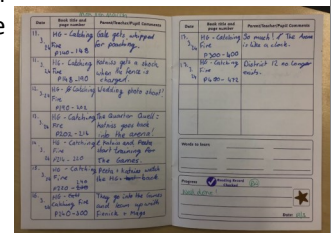
Sumdog: <https://www.sumdog.com/en/>

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read every day, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, starting a new page each week.

Star example:
Emily, Kahlo Class.



Important Dates

Tuesday 15th Apr: Start of summer term

Monday 6th May: Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 13th May – SATs week

Monday 22nd May: National Numeracy Day

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May: Half term

Monday 1st July – Friday 5th July: French trip

A look at our learning so far...

Look at our school website to find out more about some of our learning

Class page with photos



School radio podcasts



School Councils and groups

The children of Radio Council are now operating Radio Drake entirely independently. Councillor roles include recording and editing the weather, setting up the content flow of each day, hosting and producing lunchtime live shows and interviewing guests who visit our school. The station broadcasts 24 hours a day, every day of the week. Listen here: tinyurl.com/radiodrake

Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement.

We can also earn a class marble when we work well as a class to achieve something.

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website.

Year 6 total merits this year: 5180

To see the secret students for last half term, visit: <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-6-secret-student-1/>

Attendance

It is a statutory requirement for children to be in school everyday. Therefore, the attendance expectation at Drake Primary School is 100%. We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

Kahlo class attendance this year: 94.57%
King class attendance this year: 95.92%

Pupil voice

We have had lots of opportunities this year like exploring the history of Henry Cable.

- Lily B

I have enjoyed how much of a challenge there has been this year.

- Cooper

Pastoral Notice



Dads Matter

A 12-week course supporting fathers. Whether a father is living with his children or apart from them, his role in their upbringing is of huge importance. The course covers child development and understanding why children behave as they do, as well as offering practical tools and exploring techniques to help manage our own and our children's behaviour and emotions.

12 week course starting Friday 19 April:

Thetford Family Hub
Kingsway, Thetford,
IP24 3DY

12:45 - 2:45pm

Any significant male role models within a child's life, such as step-dads, uncles, grandfathers are welcome.



You can make a referral for a place on this course by visiting the 'Information for Professionals' page on our website.

www.norfolk.gov.uk/earlychildhood
or scan the QR code below to be taken straight to the page.



The website is a fantastic window into learning at our school. Year 6 information including photos, curriculum and timetables can be found at: <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/2022-23-2/>

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office:, we will either email you or arrange a time to call you.

Mr Fox, Miss Greenwood and Mrs Woolacott

Tel: 01842 762055 Email: office@drake.norfolk.sch.uk
Parent Support Adviser Email: psa@drake.norfolk.sch.uk