**Year 6 Autumn Term 2019 Information**

**Literacy**

Literacy sessions will take place every day. Writing, including sentence construction and grammar, will be taught through a variety of teaching sequences, using two main texts – The Silver Sword and Pig Heart Boy. There will be cross curricular links with our Cornerstones topics (A Child’s War and Blood Heart). Handwriting, SPAG, Spelling and Reading Comprehension will be further developed within discrete lessons.

**Maths**

Maths sessions will take place every day. These will be taught using the Power Maths scheme where pupils will be encouraged to gain a deeper understanding of the following areas: Fractions, decimals and percentages, coordinates, algebra, area and perimeter, ratio and proportion and measures.

In addition, the children will consolidate their arithmetic skills and formal written calculation methods, applying these skills to develop their mathematical reasoning. They will continue to develop these skills in discrete Rapid Arithmetic sessions. The children will continue to develop their Multiplication Facts fluency using Times Table Rock Stars.

**Cornerstones**

Information about each topic will be sent home at the start of the topic and will include home-learning activities. We will let you know dates for ‘Celebration’ events as soon as possible.

**A Child’s War** – A siren sounds and a Spitfire zooms overhead! It’s 1939 and Britain is at war. This half term, we’ll imagine what it was like to be evacuated; using different source materials, we’ll learn about evacuation and write letters to our families ‘back home’. We’ll plot the Second World War’s events on a timeline and learn about rationing. After reading an extract from The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank, we’ll write our own diaries. From a range of sources, we’ll find out about children and school during the war. We’ll learn about what it was like during the Blitz and think about how soldiers might have felt. In D&T, we’ll make Anderson shelters and cook delicious wartime food. At the end of the project, we’ll reflect on Winston Churchill’s stirring speeches and write our own.

**Blood Heart** – We will explore our circulatory system by dissecting an animal heart, finding out about the different parts and how the blood flows. We will measure our heart rates and test how it is affected by exercise. In D&T, we’ll make model hearts, and test materials before making a stethoscope. We’ll learn about how smoking affects the heart and write adverts to persuade people to stop smoking. We’ll visit the ‘Give blood’ website, and make a flow diagram to illustrate the circulation process.

**Key reminders**

**P.E.**

Children will require a PE kit (shorts, t-shirt, trainers) in school all week, especially on their timetabled PE days of Tuesday and Wednesday. They are also allowed to wear track suit bottoms and top when the weather is colder. Please remember to name uniform just in case it is mislaid by the children – use a permanent pen so that the names are not washed clean away.

**Medication Forms**

If your child requires any medicine during school times, a medical form must be completed. All medicines should be prescribed by a doctor. Please collect a form from the office.

**Homework**

Homework will be set each Friday and should be returned to school, by the following Thursday. We run a Homework Club, on Tuesday for Y6, during lunchtime. Each week, children will be given a 10 minute Literacy Workout, a 10 minute Maths Workout and a 10 minute Reading Comprehension. The HWK will be marked during the day on Fridays. As always, we expect the children to read for about 20 minutes per day and learn Multiplication Facts using Times Table Rock Stars.

**Start and End of day**

Please remember we start the day at 8:50am. Children should not be on the school grounds until 8.45am, unless at breakfast club. Children should wait quietly outside the Upper Junior cloakroom door until it is opened. Children should make their way into class and make a start on any morning work which has been set.

The day ends at 3:15pm. Children should leave the school through the Upper Junior cloakroom mains doors ONLY, unless at After School Club or other activities being organised by teachers or sports coaches. Year 6 teachers will walk to the front playground at the end of the day and will happily be available to anyone who needs to speak to us.

**Key dates for the autumn term**

**Tuesday 10th September:** Homework Club starts 12:40pm – 1:10pm

**Thursday 12th September:** Music in a Day **1914** **No-Man’s Land.** You are welcome to attend a performance at 2:30pm in the school hall.

**Thursday 12th September:** Balcombe Wood Residential Meeting at 5pm with Mark Reeves. Please meet in Mrs Fallon’s class.

**Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th October**: Individual Parents Meetings – details to follow soon. This will be a reassurance meeting to find out how your child is doing in Year 6 and be given targets to focus on. We would like the children to accompany their parents, please.

**HALF-TERM**

**Thursday 21st November:** *A Child’s War Celebration VE Day Party***:** with avisiting WWII expert in school (no cost) Parents you are invited to join us from 1.30pm for the WWII artefacts presentation and food at our street party.

**Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December:** Christmas Concert in St Paul’s Church, Honiton at 6pm.

**Friday 20th December:** School finishes for Christmas holidays

**Tuesday 7th January:** Spring term begins

**Year 6 Team (Mrs Fallon and Mr Priddle)**