

Y6 Newsletter

"Believe and Achieve!"

Archibald Primary School
Ayresome Green Lane
Middlesbrough
☎ (01642) 804 101
Headteacher: Mrs A. Jefferies

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🌐 website: www.archibaldpri.org.uk
📧 email: archibald@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @Archi_Primary

Don't be Late – Be on Time – School starts at ¼ to 9.

Happy New Year!

Welcome back, we hope you had an enjoyable Christmas holiday. It was a well-deserved rest for the children after an particularly busy autumn term.

Despite working extremely hard in our maths and english lessons we still managed to visit Heugh Battery in Hartlepool (World War 1) and Eden Camp in Malton (World War Two). We were also fortunate to work with two local poets who helped the children write poetry and then perform in a poetry slam. These experiences play a vital process in your child's learning.

The Y6 teachers were very proud of the children's performance in the Christmas Spectacular. Every child in Y6 had a small part to say and did so with enormous confidence.

As SAT's test approach, the spring term has a big focus upon this event. There will be two practise SAT's weeks this term where the children get the chance to experience what the actual SAT's week in May will feel like. The first week starts on Monday 25th January and the second on Monday 14th March. More details will be sent out nearer the time.

Learning in Y6

Literacy

This half term we will be studying short stories, a longer novel ('Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian) and poetry. Children will have weekly spellings to learn through our SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). In writing the focus will move to look at leaflets and also the use of speech.

How can I help at home?

Test your child's spellings regularly and encourage daily reading. At this age most children can read independently, but discussing and answering questions about the text will prepare them for SATs and secondary school.

Maths

This term we continue to practise number skills through the maths five-a-day questions. We will also be focusing on measurement, geometry, ratio and proportion.

How can I help at home?

Encourage the children to practise times tables and also any games that involve numbers would benefit them greatly. You can also support them with their maths homework; the questions they receive are all SAT's style questions.

Y6 Learning Contexts

Spring 1 - A Child's War

- We continue to study this topic looking at the social impact of the war.

Spring 2 - Frozen Kingdom

- During this half-term we will be looking at the geography of the Polar Regions and the animals that live there. We also look at famous explorers of these regions.

How can I help at home?

We ask that parents and carers support their child's learning in a number of ways:-

Talk to your child each day about what they have been doing at school, what they have learned and what they are looking forward to the next day.
Support your child with their homework tasks. Homework is usually sent home on a Thursday and we ask that it is returned by the following Tuesday. If children need help from the teacher with their homework we encourage them to bring it to school before the Tuesday deadline.

Encourage your child to read. Pupils should change their book weekly if possible.

More on the back ➡



Home - School Partnership

We value a strong partnership between home and school. We believe that when this partnership is strong pupils make the most of what school can offer.

If you have any concerns or quick questions the class teachers are available at the Y6 exit door at the end of each day. Alternatively you may make an appointment to meet together at a mutually convenient time.

Triangulation meetings will take place in the second half of the spring term. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss progress, share how well the children performed in the first practice SAT's test and to explain how you can help at home.

These meetings are timed to take place in weeks beginning 29th February and 7th March 2015.

STEM Special Week

This year's special week will take place in the week beginning 8th February. The focus is on **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**. As part of this week Y6 will be visiting Hartlepool Power Station. We are also participating in a one-day Lego Computer workshop.

During this week Y6 will also build the Eco Race Car and then six children will be chosen to race the car in a competition at the test track in Sunderland (April). Lots of other activities are also planned.



PE Kits

Children in class 16 will have PE lessons on a Wednesday with Mr Cutter and a Friday with Mr Farrington.

Children in class 17 will have PE lessons on a Tuesday with Mr Cutter and a Friday with Mr Farrington. Please ensure they have their complete PE kit in school on these days. Navy blue PE t-shirts can be bought from the office.

How can I help at home?

Please ensure that all PE kit is named as it easily gets muddled up when pupils get changed even in Year 6!

The weather is becoming colder and the children will require a tracksuit for outdoor PE.

It is also important that the children have the correct footwear for PE such as plimsolls or trainers. **No jewellery** is to be worn for PE.

Please remove earrings and other jewellery on PE days.

Reading at home

We all know the phrase 'practise makes perfect'. In Year 6 we believe that phrase to be absolutely true. Part of this practise needs to include reading at home. Whether it is stories, newspapers, comics or blogs on the internet, all reading supports your child's fluency and learning and enables your child to access more of the curriculum. Please help us to help your child and encourage daily reading at home for at least 15 minutes.

Tim Peake Primary Project



Archibald Primary is part of the national Tim Peak Primary Project. For the six months that Tim Peake is based on the International Space Station, we will follow his mission with interest. We will take part in activities based around the theme of space and the children have been encouraged to do their own research into anything and everything to do with space.



→ Please ensure that all items of clothing are named as uniforms, especially jumpers can easily get mixed up. In Year 6 we encourage the children to look after their own jumpers and cardigans if they take them off.

→ All packed lunch boxes should be named and placed on their peg in the cloakroom at the start of the day. Y6 pupils are responsible for collecting their own lunch box at the start of lunchtime and put it on the trolley near the red door after they have eaten.

→ It is very important that we can get in touch with you in case of an emergency. Please ensure that we have your up to date contact details.

→ We use text messages to remind you of things and to share good news stories about your child and their learning. Please make sure that the school office has your up to date mobile number.