



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Darwin's Delights

Year 6 Class Notices:

Chestnut:

Mrs Jones
Mrs Luckett



PE days:
Tuesday and
Wednesday

Forest School on
Monday's.

Sycamore:

Mrs Stewart
Mr Godridge



PE days:
Wednesday and Friday

Forest School
on Monday's

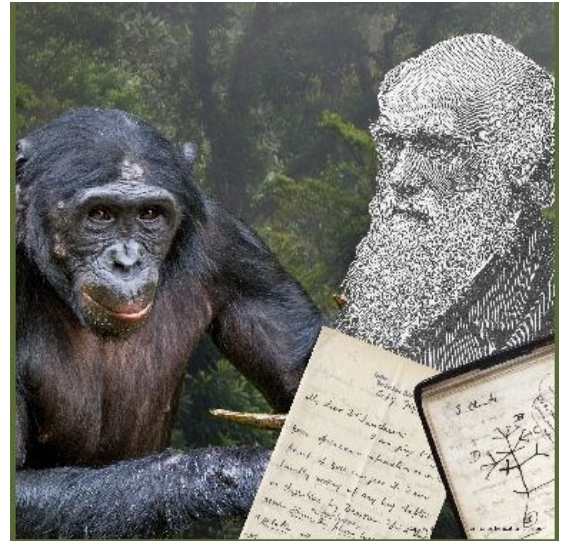
If you wish to get in contact with Year 6 staff, please speak to us at the end of the day, phone the office or email: Year6@westfield.staffs.sch.uk

Term: Autumn Two

Ship ahoy! We're off on an exciting journey with Charles Darwin and his crew on the HMS Beagle.

During this half term, we're going to investigate a range of animal specimens, describing the characteristics of the creatures. We'll use a range of non-fiction texts to investigate adaptation, natural selection, variation and inheritance. We will also learn about how we can explore evolution through fossils.

After examining letters and journal entries written by Darwin, we'll collect natural items and discover what plants live around our school and record using labelled sketches, just as Darwin did.



English

This half term we will be reading Darwin's *Dragons* by Lindsay Galvin and *One Beetle Too Many* by Kathryn Lasky.

Linking to our creative work, we will study biographical writing, producing a biography about Charles Darwin.

We will produce diary entries from the perspective of different characters as Darwin and the crew explore the Galapagos Islands.

During the half term, we will also be writing short stories in the style of a dual narrative, which involves telling a short action story from the perspective of two characters.

Maths

Throughout the half term, we will continue to develop our understanding of written strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division in our daily arithmetic lessons.

In our maths lessons, we will start work on fractions. We will begin by exploring equivalent fractions and how to simplify them. Then we will learn how to add and subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers. After this, we will move onto multiplying and dividing fractions.

We will end the half term by looking at converting measures, exploring both metric and imperial units.



PSHE



Over the coming weeks, we will continue to have our weekly circle time on a Tuesday, where we will discuss a range of relevant topics. As always our priority is to continue to make sure that our children feel safe and happy in school, so they will continue to have access to our 'Thoughts and Feelings' box which they can use at any time.

In PSHE lessons, we will be looking at the different roles within our society and how they may be perceived differently by others. We will also be looking at the importance of accepting individual differences as we get older.

RE

During our RE lessons, we will be looking into words of wisdom by exploring the meaning of stories drawn from various religious sources. We will look at the significance of key words and phrases, identifying why they are important to religious followers and the influence they have on how people live their lives.

Forest School

Whilst outside in the Forest School area, we will explore the natural materials around us, developing skills to build shelters and other structures from natural materials. We will also develop our use of tools to create small objects from wood.

PE

In PE this half term, we will participate in invasion games, particularly focusing on netball, where we will practise our passing and catching, whilst also learning to attack and defend in the game. In our other lesson, we will be exploring dance.

Home Learning

Each half term, we require children to complete at least one homework project from the selection below.

Create a true or false quiz about Charles Darwin and his scientific expedition on HMS Beagle .	Look at photos of the different archipelago islands that Charles Darwin visited. Design and draw your own archipelago island
Find out more about another famous scientists who had an interest in evolution and inheritance, such as Alfred Wallace or Mary Anning.	What can you discover about Lonesome George, the last giant Pinta Island tortoise?
Visit the Great Plant Hunt website and be a plant detective – just like Charles Darwin!	Research HMS Beagle and make a fact-filled poster to display the information you find about the ship

Reading and Spelling

Children are encouraged to read their Accelerated Reader book throughout the week, both at school and at home. In school, children will then take a quiz on their book and have the opportunity to change their book .

Children should continue to practise the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 spelling words.