

Dear Y6 Parents and Carers,

We are very pleased to welcome your children back to school and we look forward to sharing the next steps on their learning journey at The Ellis with them.

Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you.

PE

Our PE days are Monday and Friday. Monday will be indoor PE lessons and Friday will be outdoor. The children will need their PE kits, including appropriate clothing for outdoor PE, for these lessons.

Outdoor learning

There is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing! At The Ellis we love to learn outside and in Y6 we will be using our outdoor classroom and wider school environment as much as possible. This means that your child will need appropriate footwear and coats every day. Indoor pumps will be needed in school to protect our classrooms from the inevitable mud!

Reading Books

Your child will bring home a reading book to enjoy and share with you at home. They can also read books or other reading materials of their choosing at home. Please record in their reading diary when they have read to an adult or maybe an older sibling. We ask that reading diaries are in your child's book bag every day. If reading diaries are filled then we will send home a second diary free of charge, however if it is lost then we ask that a new one is bought from the office at the cost of £1. Your child is welcome to change their book any day of the week when they have completed it but it is their responsibility to ensure books are changed regularly. Children should aim to read at home at least 3 times per week and reading raffle tickets will be awarded for reading. As the children have been given reading books from school, we expect reading diaries to return to school as a minimum every other week. School will be contacting parents regarding reading diaries that have not been returned in over two weeks to check that the school book is still being read. If not, it can be returned and exchanged.

Spelling books

The children will be bringing home spelling books. They will write in their new spellings on a Monday and bring their book home to practise. Please support your child in learning their spellings. They will be regularly assessed in their spellings. Their spelling books need to be in school every Monday.

Homework

The children will be set weekly learning tasks on a learning platform called SATS Companion. This web-based learning will be designed to consolidate the learning they are doing in school. They will have one English based and one Maths based assignment each week. They can also use the website to access other tasks which will support their learning. Look out for a letter with more information and log in details.

Children are encouraged to be practising spellings and time tables online regularly. As a school we have subscribed to websites to support the children with their learning. Seesaw will be used in school regularly and may be used for learning at home if the need arises. The children will be given their individual logins for SATS Companion, Seesaw, TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed (they are stapled in the back of their reading diaries). Please support your child with their learning on these platforms.

Autumn 1 learning overview

English

We will start the half term by exploring WW2 literature, looking at *Star of Fear*, *Star of hope* by Jo Hoestlandt. During this unit, our children will practise a variety of genres such as speeches, campaigns, diary entries, newsletters, narratives and much more!

In our VIPERS (reading) lessons, we will develop our comprehension skills while reading *When We Were Warriors* by Emma Carroll.

Maths

We will learn about place value and comparing and ordering numbers during the first weeks of Y6. We will then learn about addition and subtraction, including securing the formal method of column addition and subtraction. Shortly after, we will be moving onto multiplication and division, aiming to build a solid foundation of knowledge of our four operations before progressing onwards with the Y6 curriculum. In Y6 we also look forward to focusing on key skills/techniques in arithmetic and seeing how we progress as the year goes on!

Science

Our Science learning will focus on Light this half term. We will learn about how light travels, how shadows are created and how we inevitably see things because of the reflection of light into the eye. During this unit we will be conducting a variety of experiments investigating different light sources, how shadows are created and how light is redirected into the eye.

History

In History, we will be exploring the question “What was the impact of World War 2 on British people?” This is a highly interesting topic, where we will be looking in depth surrounding the events of WW2, and its effects on the British people. We will be looking at the causes of WW2, the impact on women throughout WW2 and the different phases of the battle of Britain. This will all be centred around looking at a variety of sources, which we will evaluate, looking at their effectiveness and reliability.

RE

In RE, we will be exploring ‘Christians and how Jesus to live: What would Jesus do?’ Throughout this exploration, we will recap what it means to be Christian, and the reasons why people may turn to Jesus. We will focus on whole class discussion, group work and collaborative thinking to answer this question.

PE

We will be focusing on dance and football this half term. We will be completing our football sessions outside, please ensure that your child has suitable clothing as the days get colder. Our Dance sessions will be conducted indoors, where we will concentrate on stamping/clapping movements as part of a wider routine.

DT

Through developing their photography skills, children will learn useful artistic concepts in a new context, looking at composition, colour, light, abstract images and underlying messages. Familiarising themselves with new photography artists, children gain a new perspective on the way they look at the people and objects around them, capturing and presenting images in different ways.

Computing

We will be learning about computer systems and networks, particularly how information is transferred between systems and devices. As well as how we are able to communicate with other individuals online. Our computing unit is underpinned by online internet safety, allowing our children to understand how devices can communicate with one another and therefore how our children can communicate safely.

French

We will be learning what is “In my French House.” During these sessions, we will be building on our prior knowledge of French greetings, colours, numbers and “My French classroom”, to build on our previously learnt vocabulary – forming increasingly larger sentences.

Music

We will be analysing Baroque music, including recitative, canon, ground bass and fugue. During these sessions, we will take part in vocal improvisation tasks, compose a ground bass melodic ostinato and analyse/explore some well-known Baroque composers and describe what musical features they were known for.

PSHE

In PSHE, our Y6 children will acquire a comprehensive understanding of digital safety to navigate the online world with confidence and responsibility. We will learn to recognise and respond to cyberbullying, emphasising the importance of empathy and reporting such incidents. We will also gain insights into safeguarding our own personal information, understanding the risks associated with sharing it online and the significance of privacy settings.

Kind regards

The Y6 Team