Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 6

2026 Autumn Term 2



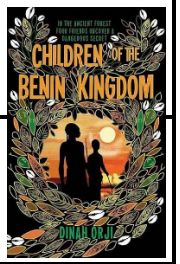
Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 have already made a terrific start to this important final year at primary school. Since the beginning of the year, I have been working alongside Mrs Uponi to adapt lessons and target specific areas of revision, not only prepare to them for their SATs in May but also ensure they get the best possible start to their Key Stage 3 studies at secondary school. Thank you all for supporting the children to complete their homework each week; these short revision activities are invaluable, particularly reading out loud with an adult. Reading is, after all, fundamental!

In the lead up to Christmas, there will be lots of activities, such as parents evenings, SEND reviews and our annual carol concert so please keep an eye on the school newsletter for dates and deadlines.

Many thanks for all your support,

Ms McQuarrie

Key dates for your diary:	➢ Friday 20th November 9am – Class assembly ➢ Thursday 26th November – Trip to Amaravati Buddhist Temple
PE days & kit required:	Oak class should wear their P.E. kits on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays.**
Homework:	➢ 10 minutes **reading** logged on Boom Reader a minimum of 4 times a week. ➢ One **MyMaths** task. ➢ 20 minutes **spelling** and **times table** practice, spread across the week (e.g. 4 x 5 minutes). **Homework will be set each Friday and due by Wednesday the following week.**
Contact us: 	Communication is vital to us supporting the school community effectively. Please speak to your class teacher on the door at drop off or pick up if you have a short query or message. For longer conversations, please email admin@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk FAO class teacher name and they will call you to discuss as soon as possible. Please be aware that teachers are teaching throughout the day so will be unable to speak to you immediately.
Our recommended read:	**Children of the Benin Kingdom** by Dinah Orji *Children of the Benin Kingdom* is fast paced adventure story, set in one of Africa's most fascinating civilisations, the Edo Kingdom of Benin. The story transports readers to another world and explores friendship, loyalty and the bonds of family. It is rich in historical detail and the cultural traditions of West Africa and as accurate historical fiction it is also perfect for celebrating Black history. 

Our theme this half term is: Benin Kingdom

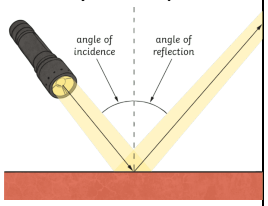
English:
This half term, children will produce both fiction and non-fiction writing based on two texts.

First, we will study a wonderful text about the New York's Greenwich Village, a neighbourhood famous for welcoming immigrants to the USA from the 1800s onwards, and famous for its diversity. Children will writ with short descriptions of the vibrant community before producing newspaper reports about the Stonewall uprising of 1969.

We will then create non-fiction pieces about the most mysterious of creatures: unicorns. Pupils will learn to write extended explanations as unicorn experts and balanced essays about fair treatment of these magical animals.



Science:
Over the next few weeks, children will be exploring light and how light travels, carrying out lots of short practical activities. They will then have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of light and reflection by designing their own investigations and evaluating their findings.



History:
Our history topic this half term explores the fascinating West African Benin Kingdom, both its history and its people's daily life in this remarkably advanced civilisation. Pupils will have opportunities to compare the Benin Kingdom to British society and make chronological links to the European history of sea travel and trade with Africa.



Art:
Pupils will explore New York's landscape and street art culture. We will practice using one point perspectives to create landscape drawings of the famous Greenwich Village, inspired by our English topic and explore street art as a form of individual self-expression.

R.E:
In the run up to Christmas, children will learn about different Christmas celebrations and form their own opinions about which traditions help Christians to understand who Jesus was and why he was born.



Reading:
To accompany our history topic, we are reading a non-fiction book about the Benin Kingdom, with which we are building our vocabulary and developing our retrieval skills. Later in the half term, we will move to 'extract-based' reading, Switching between genres adds an extra layer of challenge to our comprehension lessons!



Computing:
In computing lessons, pupils will explore web design. They will analyse different webpages, identifying the pros and cons of different design features and evaluating their usability. They will then develop their own webpages focusing on creating a positive user experience.

P.S.H.E:
This half term's PSHE unit is all about 'celebrating difference'. This is an opportunity for children to explore their own identities and personalities, explore how we feel about people that are different to us, and secure children's understanding of

the British Values of mutual respect, tolerance and democracy.



Maths:
We will continue to practice our calculation skills, practising long multiplication and long division, before moving onto everyone's favourite: fractions! All of the skills taught so far this year will also be revised in our daily arithmetic revision sessions.



Music:
Pupils will be preparing a number of traditional Christmas songs in preparation for the school carol service.



French:
We will revise ways in which we can introduce ourselves and greet others.

PE:
This half term, the pupils will have weekly netball lessons. They will also develop their teamwork and communication skills through outdoor adventure games.