



# Year 6 – Autumn Term 1

Welcome back. We hope you had a fabulous summer and that you are excited to join us in your child's final year at Gillibrand. We have lots of exciting events planned for Autumn term, and even beyond so please ensure you make a note of any dates. Also, remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at [@GPSELM](https://twitter.com/GPSELM) for weekly updates of what we get up to in Year 6!

## Important Dates:

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September** - KS2 French Day

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September** – Meet the teacher evening – 5pm

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 6 trip to Astley Hall Gardens (Art)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September** – KS2 Climate Change Talks – Green Peace

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September** – M&M Productions - The Secret Garden

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October** – Harvest Festival at Trinity Church (Parents Invited)

## French

This half term we begin our French unit with an exciting and inspiring French day to revisit and recap French knowledge learnt from previous years. Our first Year 6 French unit will focus on 'Chez Moi'. Pupils will learn the nouns and articles for each of the different rooms in the homes and learn how to personalise this to their own homes. Pupils will end the unit by writing a passage in French showing what they have learnt.

## English

Linked to our geography topic of climate change and sustainability, we will be studying the book Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. During our unit on this text, we will be reading and writing using a range of new skills. We will be completing a range of formal and informal writing genres including: letter writing, balanced arguments, debates and our own stories on a similar theme. We will also be finishing our topic, by creating a poem on the theme of saving our planet. This will be performed for parents at our environmental exhibition on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

This term we will focus on the sentence types of:

3 ed sentences – starting with 3 ed words (Confused, shocked, scared, the children ran from the burning building.)

De:de sentences – Description: detail (I was exhausted: I hadn't slept for more than two days.)

Some; others sentences – comparative (**Some** people love football; **others** can't stand it.)

The more, the more sentences – emphasising (**The more** angry he became, **the more** he hammered his fist.)

Ing, ed sentences – Ing starter, followed by ed action (Dancing in the studio, she watched in the mirror as a shadow appeared.)

## Reading

Our class text this term is Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. During our study of this text, we will be discussing our thoughts, feelings and opinions of the characters and plot. This will spiral into lots of our learning across other subjects.

In guided reading sessions, pupils will meet a wide range of non-fiction texts developing their understanding of environmental issues further. We will also be reading about key people trying to help, such as Greta Thunberg and Sir David Attenborough.

## Maths

We will begin the half term developing our understanding of number and the number system before moving on to focusing on calculations. Our main focuses will include reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers up to 10,000,000. As well as identifying the value of each digit in numbers to 3 decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 where the answers are up to 3 decimal places. We will also look at using negative numbers in context and calculating intervals across zero before rounding any whole number to a required degree of accuracy.

## Science

In our exciting evolution study, linked to our geography work, pupils will learn how fossils provide information about living things that lived on Earth millions of years ago and how they have changed over time before using Mr Men characters to explore simple genetics. We will then learn about how plants and animals are adapted their environment and carry out the 'Beak Investigation' exploring how birds have adapted. Finally, we will use our reading, computing and writing skills to learn about Charles Darwin and communicate this in our chosen way.

## PSHE

With the topic of me and my relationships, our year 6 pupils will build on their understanding of friendships. This will delve into our emotional needs, looking at how these needs can be met in healthy relationships and not met in unhealthy relationships. Advice will be given as to how and where to get support if experiencing unhealthy relationships.

## Music

This half term the children will be developing their singing skills through working with our external singing teacher, Miss Jones. Miss Jones will work with the class to write their own songs. One will form part of a whole school song that will be written over the year and the other will form part of our whole school harvest celebrations.

## PE

This half-term **P.E will take place on Monday and Friday** will focus on two different elements: dance (provided by Chorley SSP) and ball skills. In PE, we will be developing our ball skills in various ways e.g. dribbling, bouncing, kicking and linking these together with co-ordination, control and fluency. Chorley Schools' Sport Partnership will be working with us this half term to develop our dance skills. We will perform dances with confidence, using a range of movements.

## Topic

In our exciting environmental study, we will delve into the question 'How can we protect our community?'

With this topic, pupils will be learning about the different biomes in our world studying the climate, wildlife and vegetation of these vastly differing areas. We will then find out how these are evolving because of climate change, global warming, greenhouse gases, flooding, drought, melting ice caps and rising sea levels. During this very topical study, the pupils will learn about sustainable living, work out their carbon footprint and learn how we can stop climate change.

If you would like to support your child's learning in this topic, you can complete the 22 ways to help the planet in 2022.

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/what-you-can-do/help-the-planet-2022>

## ART

Using our in-school theatre production as inspiration, we will be building our awareness of Literature through using the classic text 'The Secret Garden'. We will make links with our local community (Astley Hall) and create a piece of garden inspired art working using a wide variety of painting media and techniques.

## RE

Our Year 6 work will focus on the topic of journeys through different religions. We will begin by looking at Christianity and God reflecting upon the importance of child baptism, confirmation, and adult baptism. We will use our art skills to demonstrate a self-awareness of their own personal development by considering their own life journey and the changes they will make as they progress through life.

## Computing

This half-term we are going to focus upon using Microsoft Power point to create a presentation based upon our topic of protecting our environment. We will be designing slides, editing transitions and timings, adding hyperlinks and applying animations to create an effective power point to present to an audience.