

# Holden Clough Community Primary School's Curriculum Newsletter - Year 6 - Autumn 1 - 2023/2024

**Introduction** Welcome back after a well-deserved break! We trust you have all had a restful and relaxing summer and are ready to get stuck straight into learning this half term. We can't wait to hear about what you've all been up to before hitting the ground running in this, your final year at Holden Clough! However, without wanting to mention the dreaded SAT's too early, it is really important this year that you take real responsibility for your learning. Regular reading at home will be key, as well as regular practising of the SPAG concepts we are going to be learning will also stand you in good stead.



## Mathematics

We will kick off the year in familiar fashion as we begin with place value. This will require you to be confident in the recognising, reading and writing of numbers up to 8 digits, as well as looking at their composition. As part of this we will also explore negative numbers and rounding, before then progressing on to the four operations, fractions and then finally geometry before this first half term is up. We cannot stress enough the importance of being fluent in the recall of timestables and division facts this year, and to this effect, TT Rockstars and Deepening Understanding will help you consolidate this. All logins will remain the same and we will re-issue log in details just in case children have forgotten them!

## History

In History, we will be exploring our enquiry question:

*Who were the Ancient Greeks and how did they influence the world?*

This unit is designed to explore Greek life, the achievements of Ancient Greece and its influence on the western world. Below you can find a list of key vocabulary we will be covering this half term.

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
acropolis	A walled part of an Ancient Greek city, usually built on a hill.	ethics	Standards of right behaviour or moral principles.
alliances	A union formed for mutual benefit, especially between countries or organisations.	excavation	Digging to find buried remains or artefacts.
alphabet	The letters used in a language, usually arranged in a set order.	government	The group of people who are in charge of a country.
archaeologist	Someone who studies archaeology.	influence	The power to affect someone or something.
citizens	A citizen of a place is someone who was born there or who lives there.	military	To do with soldiers or the armed forces.
city-state	Ancient Greek city which had its own laws and government.	monarchy	A monarchy is a country ruled by a monarch.
civilisation	An advanced society, culture, and particular way of life in a certain area.	mountainous	A mountainous place has a lot of mountains.
conquer	Defeat people in a battle or war.	oligarchy	A country ruled by a small group of people.
conquest	A victory over another country or people.	philosophy	Philosophy is the study of truths about life and human behaviour.
culture	The customs and traditions of people.	tactics	Methods used by someone to achieve or win something.
democracy	Democracy is government by leaders elected by the people.	tyranny	Cruel or unjust way of ruling people.
drama	Drama is writing or performing plays.	unite	People or things unite when they join together.
enquiry	A question you ask when you want information.	warrior	Someone who fights in battles.

## English

In English, we will be studying the horror genre with a range of spooky tales being at the heart of the unit. We will be composing a number of different pieces of writing around the book we will be reading in guided reading lessons: 'The Haunting of Aveline Jones'. Some of these outcomes include a character description and a first-person narrative. A quick synopsis of this book can be found below:

*Aveline Jones loves reading ghost stories, so a dreary half-term becomes much more exciting when she discovers a spooky old book. Not only are the stories spine-tingling, but it once belonged to Primrose Penberthy, who vanished mysteriously, never to be seen again. Intrigued, Aveline decides to investigate Primrose's disappearance. Now someone... or something, is stirring. And it is looking for Aveline. Turn on your torches, and join Aveline Jones in her first charmingly spooky mystery, from debut author Phil Hickes.*

We will then be diving in to the world of Shakespeare by writing our own Macbeth inspired battle scenes. We will be thrown in to the story by watching the Young Shakespeare Company's version.

### Science

In science, year 6 will be exploring light. We will be investigating how we see things and looking into the laws of reflection and refraction.

### Parent's Information

If you want to support your child's learning at home, here are a few ideas you might like to try:

- Listen, read and discuss with your child the book they are reading at the moment. If you want to encourage your child to read more narrative/fiction ask your class teacher for ideas.
- Play times table's games and practice division as well as multiplication facts.
- Use the century, Edshed and Times table Rockstars websites at home - your children should know the log in details!
- Practice your child's spellings with them - they will be bringing them home in their planners at the start of each week.

### Art & DT

Over the next few weeks, year 6 will be researching and then creating artwork inspired by the following artists:

- David Spears
- Willow Pattern

### Upcoming dates for your diary

- 18<sup>th</sup> September - Parents Meeting (in person to be held in the studio).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> October - Young Shakespeare Company performance (during school time)
- 20<sup>th</sup> October - Half term ends.

### PE

6AH will be having P.E every Wednesday and Tuesday and 6JH will be having P.E every Tuesday and Friday. It is imperative for children come in the correct kit including appropriate footwear, and where appropriate additional warm clothing.

### Music

Children will be learning band skills on a Tuesday afternoon.

### Homework

Just a reminder of homework allocation for this academic year. All homework will be marked as a class whereby misconceptions will be addressed.

**Monday - Arithmetic paper due the following Monday**

**Wednesday - CGP book (with SPAG focus)**

**Friday - CGP books (reasoning focus)**



**KEEP  
CALM**

**AND**

**DO YOUR  
HOMEWORK**