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## Upper Key Stage 2 Topic Newsletter

Autumn 1 2023

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## This Term...

## Year 5 Curriculum

**History – Dynamic Dynasties**

In History, the children will learn about periods of ancient Chinese history. They will explore a timeline of the first five Chinese dynasties. They will look into the history of the Bronze Age Shang Dynasty and explore evidence found in the ancient city of Yin.

**Science – Forces and mechanisms**

In Science, the children will learn about the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction, with children exploring their effects. They learn about mechanisms, their uses and how they allow a smaller effort to have a greater effect.

**Geography – Investigating our world**

In Geography, the children will learn to use Ordnance Survey maps and six figure grid references. They'll also learn about time zones, climate zones and vegetation belts.

## Year 6 Curriculum

**History - Maafa**

In History, the children will learn about Ancient African Kingdoms, the development of the transatlantic slave trade, Britain's role in the slave trade and the causes and consequences of the abolition of the slave trade and slavery.

**Science – Circulatory system**

In Science, the children will learn about the transport role of the human circulatory system, its main parts and their primary functions. They learn about healthy lifestyle choices and the effects of harmful substances on the body.

**Geography - Maafa**

In Geography, the children will learn about Africa – the countries which make up Africa, settlements, population, climate and physical features.

**Art – Trailblazers, barrier breakers**

In Art, the children will learn about significant black artists and their work. They will have opportunities to analyse and create artwork inspired by them.

## Thought of the term...



Be your best.

Aspiration and Courage

InMAT value: Inspiration

## How I can help my child at home.

**Maths**

In Term 1, Year 5 will learn about place value and addition and subtraction. Year 6 will learn about place value and the four operations. Activities which support this: Partitioning numbers, adding and subtracting 4 digit numbers and practising times table recall to support multiplication and division methods.

**English**

In Term 1, Year 5 will be writing fantasy stories and then persuasive letters. Year 6 will be writing rap based poetry and stories with ghosts and suspense. Activities which support this: Read a range of writing of the genres to be studied, discuss features of these types of writing. Create a bank of persuasive words/phrases.

## Dates for the diary.

19<sup>th</sup> October – Friends Year 4-6  
Halloween Disco 6:15-7:15pm

20<sup>th</sup> October – Friends Pumpkin Carving Competition

20<sup>th</sup> October – End of Autumn Term 1

30<sup>th</sup> October – Start of Autumn Term 2

## Reading Recommendations – Year 5



## Reading Recommendations – Year 6



