



# Desert Class: Curriculum Letter

Summer Term 2 2023

I can't believe we are in our last half term of the school year!

Please check our class page regularly – I always share our celebrations on a Friday as well as other bits too: <https://www.shillingstone.dorset.sch.uk/classes/desert/>

Here is some information about our units of learning over this half term.

## Homework

We are back on our normal homework timetable for this half term.

Please help your child to practise their spellings every day at home. These come home on a Friday and they have the test the following Friday.

Your child should be reading at home every day and recording this in their reading record a few times a week.

Your child has maths homework set on Times Tables Rock Stars and Sumdog every week also. Please encourage them to do this and support them when necessary.

## PE Days

\*Children need to come into school in their PE kits on Mondays and Tuesdays.

## Dates for the Diary ...

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Computing Curriculum Enrichment

Mrs Broughton (Computing Lead from SNHS) is coming into our school to meet our children and lead a computing lesson with them focussed on MicroBits.

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June - Transition meeting for those children transferring to SNHS

Gemma Payne (Year 7 lead) and Sara Hoffman (SENCo) will be coming to our school to meet the children and lead a Question and Answer session with them.

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June

#### Year 6 Residential Trip – 2 nights – To Carey Education Centre, Wareham

Thank you to those who came along to the meeting last week. We are all very excited about this trip! Please come and see me if you have any questions.

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Sporting Challenge Day at SNHS

All children in Year 5 & 6 will participate in a sports day at Sturminster Newton High School. Activities usually include tennis, cricket, rounders, cup stacking, wooden plank team challenge and water challenge (where teams have to transport as much water as possible across the playground area 😊)

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Transition Day

Those children transferring to SNHS will attend their new school on this day.

### w/b Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Whole School Sports Week

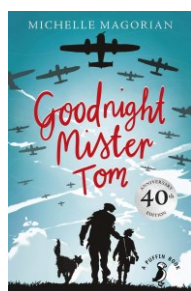
Monday – Sports Day (Tuesday – back up Sports Day)

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – Rubicon in leading Skateboarding and Scootering sessions

### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term






2.30pm End of term Leavers' Service at Holy Rood Church

## Topic Learning – Britain at War



We have finished the history lessons linked to this topic and are getting through our class text, Goodnight Mister Tom. We will finish reading this text over this next half term.

During this second half term, we will be following the companion projects which focus on other subject areas. I have mapped out below my initial plan. We will see how we get on – there is a lot to fit in!

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 5	Week 6
ART & DESIGN	SCIENCE	D&T	SCIENCE	ART & DESIGN
				
Distortion and Abstraction	Light Theory	Make Do and Mend	Evolution and Inheritance	Bees, Beetles and Butterflies
This project teaches children about the concepts of abstraction and distortion. They study the visual characteristics of abstraction and create a musically-inspired, abstract painting.	This project teaches children about the way that light behaves, travelling in straight lines from a source or reflector, into the eye. They explore how we see light and colours, and phenomena associated with light, including shadows, reflections and refraction.	This project teaches children a range of simple sewing stitches, including ways of recycling and repurposing old clothes and materials.	This project teaches children how living things on Earth have changed over time and how fossils provide evidence for this. They learn how characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring and how variation in offspring can affect their survival, with changes (adaptations) possibly leading to the evolution of a species.	This project teaches children about sketchbooks, observational drawing, mixed media collage and Pop Art. They consolidate their learning to make a final piece of artwork inspired by bees, beetles or butterflies.

There is a Knowledge Organiser, detailing the information the children will be expected to learn during each unit of work. These will be posted on our class webpage. Please read through these with your child at home and discuss the information provided.



### Numeracy

Throughout the whole school (from Years 1 to 6), we follow White Rose maths. I have included below the unit headings as well as further information about the lessons within each unit for the Year 6 curriculum.

The children working on the Year 6 curriculum have covered all of the units of work for this school year (as we need to fit all this in before the SATs tests!).

Over the last half term, we are revisiting areas of the curriculum, extending it through problem-solving and reasoning activities which link to real-life situations e.g. booking a holiday – which is better value for money? Compare prices for full board, half board and self-catering whilst considering how much you are likely to spend on food.

Please note –

There are some children in the class who are not ready to follow the year 6 maths curriculum. Their maths learning in class may link to a different year groups curriculum.

These children have a few more units left to cover before the end of the school year.

### R.E.

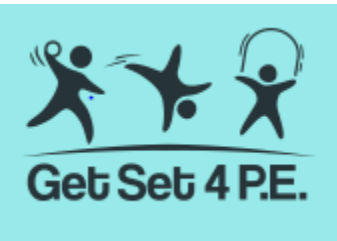
Mrs Higgs will be teaching R.E. on Thursdays. Our Christianity unit of work this half term focuses on the Kingdom of God. The children will be looking at connections between biblical texts and the concept of the Kingdom of God. They will make connections between belief in the Kingdom of God and how Christians put their beliefs into practice in different ways, including worship and in service to the community. They will learn to relate the Christian teachings about God's Kingdom to the issues, problems and opportunities of their own lives and the life of their community in the world today.

### Music



Mrs Higgs will be teaching music on Thursdays. Our Music topic this half term continues to focus on 'Introducing Chords' and has a social theme of how music teaches us about our community. In this topic, the children will continue furthering their knowledge about key and time signatures. This half term they will be introduced to the Key Signatures of D minor and E major.

### P.E.



<u>SUMMER TERM 2</u>	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Curriculum PE Lessons	Cricket	Athletics

#### Cricket

Pupils develop the range and quality of striking and fielding skills and their understanding of cricket. They learn how to play the different roles of bowler, wicket keeper, fielder and batter. In all games

activities, pupils have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. In cricket, pupils achieve this by striking a ball and trying to avoid fielders, so that they can run between wickets to score runs. Pupils are given opportunities to work in collaboration with others, play fairly demonstrating an understanding of the rules, as well as being respectful of the people they play with and against.

### **Athletics**

In this unit, pupils are set challenges for distance and time that involve using different styles and combinations of running, jumping and throwing. As in all athletic activities, pupils think about how to achieve their greatest possible speed, distance or accuracy and learn how to persevere to achieve their personal best. They learn how to improve by identifying areas of strength as well as areas to develop. Pupils are also given opportunities to lead when officiating as well as observe and provide feedback to others. In this unit pupils learn the following athletic activities: long distance running, sprinting, triple jump, discus and shot put.

### **Languages - French**

In Desert Class, French is taught by specialist French teachers from Shaftesbury School, Mr Gardiner and Miss Edwards. They will continue to come into school on Wednesday afternoons to deliver these lessons.

This half term in French, all year groups are focusing on the theme of holidays. Year 6 will be building on the holidays work from last half term and their introduction to using the past tense, with the new acronym CROISSANT to join CHEAT in their strategies toolbox!



### **PSHE Education (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) - Jigsaw**



Our next unit is **Changing Me**. In this Puzzle the class learn about puberty in boys and girls and the changes that will happen – they reflect on how they feel about these changes. The children also learn about childbirth and the stages of development of a baby, starting at conception. They talk about being physically attracted to someone and the effect this can have upon the relationship. They discuss relationships and the importance of mutual respect and not pressuring / being pressured into doing something that they don't want to. The children also learn about self-esteem, why it is important and ways to develop it. Finally, they look at the transition to secondary school and what they are looking forward to / are worried about and how they can prepare themselves mentally.

### Teaching Team in Desert Class

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Class Teacher</b>	Mrs Vail	Mrs Vail	Am - Mrs Vail	Mrs Higgs	Mrs Vail
			Pm – (Mrs Vail - PPA)  French teachers: Mr Gardiner / Miss Edwards  Mrs Whitehouse- Sharpe		
<b>Teaching Assistants</b>	Mrs Greenland	Mrs Greenland	Mrs Greenland	Mrs Greenland	Mrs Greenland

As always, we have got a busy half term with lots to look forward to! Please come and ask if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail. At the end of the school day is best.

Kind regards, Mrs Sarah Vail and Mrs Higgs.