



**THERE'S
NO
FULL STOP
TO LEARNING**

YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a great half-term break. This half term is an important one, with SATs looming straight after Easter, so we are going to be very busy over the next lot of weeks.

This term our **topic** is **The Aztecs and Modern Mexico**. We will be continuing to find out about the Aztecs, and why their civilization disappeared. We will also be talking about the Spanish conquest of the Americas and the enormous effect it had on the rest of the world.

Our **science** topic is **Animals Including Humans**, in which we will be studying different living things and how they have been sorted and classified. We will be looking in depth at the scientist Carl Linnaeus. In Maths we will be completing our study of geometry, algebra and statistics before revising the curriculum in preparation for the SATs exams.

There will be **weekly spellings** to learn. Spellings will go home on a **Monday** in the back of their reading journals. Use Look, cover, write and check to help your children learn these! The spellings they receive will be the spellings they are tested on during their SATs exams, so please practise!

As I have mentioned, this half term is especially important as we will be revising for our upcoming SATs exams. We have 8 teaching weeks until the tests and will be using this time to revise. Children will be taken out in groups during class and after lunch to help them with any part of the curriculum they don't understand.

PE is on **Tuesdays**- please ensure your child has a fully labelled PE kit and brings it to school on these days as this is an invaluable lesson. We will also be **running the Daily Mile every day at 12:15pm** for 15 minutes before lunch. Given that this is a stressful time of the year we feel it will be very therapeutic for the children. Please also ensure that your child has a roll-on deodorant in their bag for after lunch.

Dates for the diary:

World Book Day - Friday 6th March 2020

Science Week - Monday 9th- Friday 13th March 2020

Parents Evening - Thursday 2nd April 2020

We are also working on a special trip towards the end of the half-term; we will let you know arrangements for this ASAP. As always, if you have any queries or worries please feel free to see me after school.

Kind regards,

Chris Marley, Kate Hartill, Natasha Harriott and Jo Ouazene

With Science Week coming up, our Homework Project this half term will be based on our current Science topic: **Living Things and Their Habitats.**

Use these resources for inspiration for your homework project!

Go Online:

- Animals (including classification) - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn22pv4>
- Microorganisms - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfxxsbk>

Watch it:

- Animal Classification - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/science-ks2--ks3-classification-of-organisms/zh7g92p>
- Amazing Animal Groups - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwH8xGmqGmo>
- Taxonomy: Life's Filing System - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F38BmgPcZ_I
- The Work of Carl Linnaeus - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LVunuIOT4w>
- Animal Classifications - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6anmd7DnYw>
- Microorganisms - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSitT0oOoyc>
- The Beneficial Bacteria That Make Delicious Food - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eksagPy5tmQ>
- How Does Your Immune System Work? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSRJfaAYkW4>

Go Online: (Enquiry skills)

- What are classification keys - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z9cbcwx>
- What is classification and identification - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zccm3k7>

Visit: The Natural History Museum - <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/>

Observe:

- How small are micro-organisms? [See micro-organisms at different magnifications](#) and compare them to the head of a pin.
- [See inside your immune system](#) and meet your bodyguards and enemies.
- Look at some [close-up pictures of bacteria](#).
- [Find out more about microbes](#) and about [bacteria](#) by looking into an online microscope.
- Marvel at some beautiful [micrographical photography](#).
- See videos of [micro-organisms moving](#).

Visit: Horniman Museum and Gardens - Follow their Animal Walk and you'll see alpacas, goats, guinea pigs, and more, with the chance to get up close. Inside, their excellent little aquarium plays host to shoals of fishes, along with colourful frogs and jellyfish. To top it all off, you can take a stroll through their butterfly house
- <https://www.horniman.ac.uk/>

Visit: London Wetlands Centre - <https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london/>

Play:

- Explore a brilliant [kids' microbiology website](#), packed with games, activities, challenges and Minecraft maps.
- Visit the online [Microbe Science Show](#) and play KS1 games to help you understand more about microbes.
- [Microbes fishing game](#).
- For KS2 students, [play games like Microbe Mayhem and Super Sneezes](#), [read disease fact files and download revision guides](#).
- [A Centre of the Cell game about a flu epidemic](#).

Create: [Paint your own microbe!](#)

Research it: Research Edward Jenner and Sir Alexander Fleming.

Visit: Visit a safari park or zoo to learn more about animals first hand.

London Zoo - <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo>

Paradise Wildlife Park - <https://www.pwpark.com/>

SEA LIFE London Aquarium - <https://www.visitsealife.com/london/>

Woburn Safari Park - <https://www.woburnsafari.co.uk/>

Butterfly Farm - <https://www.butterflyfarm.co.uk/attraction/>

The Big Cat Sanctuary - <https://thebigcatsanctuary.org/>

Port Lympne Safari Park - <https://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne/>

Read:

- The Variety of Life by Nicola Davies

- Animalium (Welcome To The Museum) by Jenny Broom

- Classification and Evolution by Peter Riley

- [Read a microbes comic](#)