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Rosa Street Primary School  
Spennymoor  
County Durham  
DL16 7NA

Dear Parents,

### Year 5/6 Curriculum Letter

It has been really exciting to welcome our Year 5/6 children to their new class. Most of the children are embarking on their final year with us at Rosa Street and we hope to prepare them fully for their transition to secondary school. They all seem to have shot up over the holidays and have also matured greatly in their thinking and show great enthusiasm for learning. Year 5/6 have embraced their many duties and responsibilities and many members of the school have been impressed with their willingness to help. It is going to be a great year!

The objectives of the National Curriculum will be met using a creative curriculum approach. This means that where possible we will be making links between subjects by creating memorable, tactile and experiential learning experiences based around a theme and will be finding ways to inspire the children utilising skills from art, music, technology, dance and drama. This style of learning gives children plenty of opportunities to investigate questions in depth, complementing their innate sense of curiosity and inquisitiveness and helps to build confident, independent thinkers and problem solvers.

Through our connected curriculum, we will be making links to future job opportunities including: musicians, actors/actresses, musical conductors, entrepreneurs, inventors, coders, accountants, analysts, textile designers, machinists, hockey coaches, professional hockey players and teachers. If you feel that you could support our learning around these career area, please make contact with the school.

#### **English**

Our experiential approach to English will be focused around the animation 'Dreamgiver'. Within English children will be writing a narrative – writing about their own dreams and a recount of the Dreamgiver story with reference to an eyewitness report/Police report when Sophie is taken from the orphanage. To conclude the half term we will be starting a text-based approach by reading the novel Street Child. The children will be writing a short autobiography, accounts of exciting events (Winmarleigh), character and setting descriptions.

#### **Science**

**Year 6:** Within Science we will identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function and describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.



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Children will learn about the main body parts and internal organs (skeletal, muscular and digestive system) to explore and answer questions that help them to understand how the circulatory system enables the body to function. We will learn how to keep our bodies healthy and how our bodies might be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body.

**Year 5:** The year 5 Science curriculum will cover Animals including humans. Children will describe how humans develop from birth to old age. They will also learn about the changes experienced in puberty. We will also be focusing on gestation periods of other animals and comparing these with humans.

### Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be continuing to develop children's understanding of number, measure and problem solving. Times tables will be a priority this year and we intend to test the children each week to assess their progress. You can support your children by giving them time at home to prepare for these so that they may progress. Your child continues to have access to Conquer Maths and Rockstar Times Tables and this will be required to complete as additional homework tasks. Please encourage your child to make use of these valuable resources as much as possible. If you do not have access to a computer at home your child will be given opportunities to take part in online activities at school.

### History

This term we will be exploring changes in Britain since the Victorians; developing an understanding of chronology by placing key events on a timeline. We will identify the changes and reasons for changes in school life as well as looking at inventions and changes in technology. Furthermore, we will be comparing and reflecting on inventions over time and making a specific link to the Roman period.

### Art

In Art we will be focusing on textiles and recording events using fabric as the media. As a starting point the class will explore the Victorians recording our initial ideas in our sketch books. We will explore different stitching techniques to add detail and develop our design further.

### Computing

In computing we will be learning to use Microsoft Excel and spreadsheets for the purpose of costing the materials to make our own invention. We will be using formulas and code to program a spreadsheet to support our calculations.



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## Geography

In Geography, we will be exploring global trade links with the UK and the impact these have upon our society. We will be using maps, atlases, globes and interactive maps to locate global trade links and the features of the environment that support their sustainability.

## PE

In PE, we will be learning to play the game 'Wide Attack' using the hockey equipment. A reminder that black or navy shorts and a white t-shirt are worn for indoor P.E. and suitable footwear is also required for outdoor games. It is important to leave earrings and jewellery at home on P.E. days. Please support your child by ensuring they have their P.E. Kit in school. Designated P.E. days are Monday and Friday.

## Homework

Homework will be sent home on a Friday providing details of spellings, English and Maths homework each week. Homework books allow for home school communication and a chance for your child to reflect on their learning. These should be returned to school by the following Thursday (at the latest.) Reading records will be sent home daily and an expectation for your children to read for at least 5 minutes each evening. These should be back in school daily as staff carry out a daily record of reading.

## PSHE

This term we will be following the SEAL program (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning.). This half term we will be focusing on 'New Beginnings.' This is intended to develop thinking, speaking and listening skills and to help children to learn to be co-operative when considering others ideas. In addition to the social and emotional aspects of learning, children will be expected to consider the concept of citizenship and how to follow healthy and safer lifestyles. This will be particularly relevant to them when thinking about ways in which they can help our school community to care for the environment.

## Music

In Music, we will be learning to sing and compose Jazz music. We will be learning the history of Jazz musicians and artists and their musical influence over time.

Many thanks for your continued support and may we offer our very best wishes to you all for the coming academic year.

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Wilson



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