

## Year 6 Newsletter Spring Term 2022

Please read this termly newsletter, it is intended to help you to assist your son or daughter with their studies and is an extension of our home-school partnership.

In such a newsletter, we can only provide a brief outline but we hope it will give some idea of the areas that we shall be covering this term. Other information can also be found on our website – [www.heronsgate.org.uk](http://www.heronsgate.org.uk).

### Year 6 Staff

Hawks:	Mrs. Dimmock – Year Manager
Eagles:	Mrs. Timmins
Falcons:	Miss Robinson
Kestrels:	Mr. Dobson

**Spring one** – During the first part of the Spring Term our Topic is Frozen Kingdom.

Welcome to the planet's coldest lands. Vast wilds and hostile territories; incredibly beautiful, yet often deadly. Take shelter from the elements or fall prey to icy winds and the deepest chill. Trek bravely and valiantly across treacherous terrain to the ends of the Earth, treading deep in snow or being pulled by a team of mighty sled dogs. Be alert, for magnificent mammals roam these lands, sometimes hungry or fresh for a fight. Perhaps a hungry polar bear or an Arctic fox is hunting rodents, as swift as the wind. Research facts and figures of climate, temperature, habitats and ecosystems, and compose evocative poems about the Northern Lights. Become part of an Antarctic rescue team, braving the elements to rescue terrified passengers from a ship struck by a deadly iceberg that hides deep beneath the Southern Ocean. Wrap up well and settle by the fire. I'm just going outside and may be some time.



**English:** We will be focus on writing a range of different text types, including: narrative, explanations and non-chronological reports. Our primary focus will continue to be on the content, clarity and cohesion of the writing as opposed to text features. Application of spellings and grammar taught will also be key to children's progression. Children will have two SPAG lessons throughout the week where they will recap previously learnt skills and learn new skills which will be recapped in their English sessions. Continued emphasis will be placed on the importance of editing and improving writing to reach the best possible standard.

**Spellings:** Children will focus on approximately 10 words a week, which will be sent home with the half termly homework project. Whilst we will practice these through our 'Fast Learning' sessions of which there are four per week, it would be highly beneficial for children to practice these at home too. Some children will have personalized spellings for their needs. We will also begin using 'EdShed', a dedicated spelling website.

**Guided Reading:** Guided reading continues at pace through the use of our SAT Buster books of which each child has been issued with 3 - fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

**Maths:** In Year 6, much of the maths lessons are geared towards revising the essential skills and processes they will have been taught in previous year groups. Children will be challenged with reasoning questions which encourage them to apply their skills and knowledge to real world situations. Children will also be taught how to approach SATS style questions effectively.

**Art & Design:** Discover the beautiful artwork of the Inuit, the Arctic's indigenous people. Find examples of Inuit prints and carvings of birds, Arctic mammals, polar bears, seals, caribou and wolves. Taking inspiration from their native style, make a simple block print, combining two or three colours. Add surface detail using black ink.

**IT:** We will be using a presentation program to prepare a multimedia presentation of Arctic phenomena. Search for photographs and images, selecting the most appropriate for the task and using software to add sound effects and transitions.

**PE:** Children will have two sessions per week. This is a compulsory part of the curriculum. The children are expected to arrive in school in their PE Ready kit with suitable footwear. In the first half term, the children will develop their abilities through multi skills.

**PE Ready Days:**

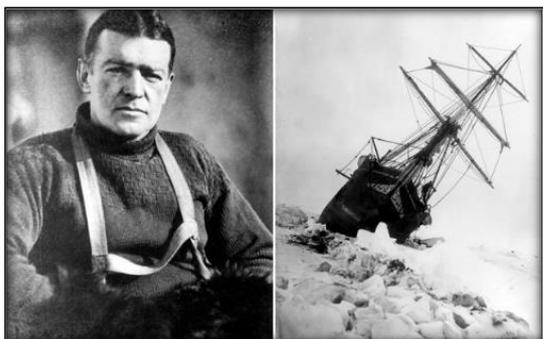
**Falcons:** Tuesday and Wednesday

**Eagles:** Monday and Wednesday

**Hawks:** Tuesday and Wednesday

**Kestrels:** Wednesday and Friday

**Homework:** Half termly projects linked to the topic will continue to be set, with a choice of different styles of presentation for children to choose from. They only need to complete one task. It must be completed to a high standard and handed in on or before the last Monday of each half term. All homework projects will be shared with the class and 5 Marvelous Me points awarded. In addition, a weekly Maths activity will be sent home on Mondays and will be due in by Thursday of the same week. The children will be given a homework book to stick their homework into. The task will be marked with the teacher on Fridays. In Year 6, children will also be given a weekly SPAG activity to complete. This will also be marked with the class teacher during one of the two weekly SPAG sessions. Maths and SPAG homework will be rewarded with 1 MME point each. Our Spanish teacher, Miss Kempton, will provide the children with their Spanish homework every two weeks and will make it clear when this is due. It should be noted that the same standards of presentation and care that applies to school work also applies to all aspects of homework regardless of subject or activity.



**History:** During the Spring term, the children will be looking at the travels of Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton who is best known as a polar explorer associated with four expeditions exploring Antarctica, particularly the Trans-Antarctic (Endurance) Expedition (1914–16) that he led, which, although unsuccessful, became famous as a tale of remarkable perseverance and survival.

**How can you support your child at home?**

- Hear your child read or discuss what they are reading
- Encourage them to practice their weekly spellings, use SPAG.com, TTRockstars and SUMDOG as we set challenges on these forums as well
- Encourage them to use their mental maths to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers in everyday life, for example: 'there are 7 weeks left of term – how many days at school is that?'
- Ensure your child is confident at telling the time. If they are, can they calculate with time - 'how long until...?'
- Support them with their homework projects – we don't mind if it is a team effort



**Spring 2 - ID**

Who do you think you are? Are you an extrovert or an introvert, a singleton, a twin or even a triplet? Let's discover what makes you you. From your fingerprints and footprints, to your genes and DNA, everything is unique to you. So why do you look like Mum or Dad, or even Auntie Rose? Explore the world of human identity and how our unique features can be used to tell us apart from others or help to solve a crime. Write reports, adverts and poems on the theme of identity and express your opinions, views and beliefs. Do you like the same things as others, or are your tastes uniquely yours? Then, it's time for some detective work. In the case of the stolen handbag, use your knowledge and skills to solve the crime and identify the culprit. And remember to love being you. Why? Because there's only one you. You're one of a kind.