### Learning Highlights from Autumn 2 2022

#### Tales from the Arabian Nights.

After the in-depth study of one of the stories from this collection, the children retold the story of 'Aladdin and the Lamps' in their own words. The focus was on using dialogue to move the story on and making astute use of adverbials to indicate the passing of many years.

Once they had learned more about the Early Islamic Civilisation era, the children were able to masquerade as visitors to Baghdad in 749AD and wrote letters home to tell their families all about the astonishing wonders to be seen in this harmonious city. Children also designed and then made prints of geometric and arabesque shapes in order to create their own version of the repeated patterns so prevalent at that time.







#### Crucial Crew 2022

After a long gap, Year 6 were delighted to be able to visit Carlton Miniott to participate in the first Crucial Crew outing for three years. There, the children took part in workshops to highlight how to keep safe in and out of the home, learning lots of new skills in the process.

#### Spring Term 2023

After the Christmas break, it seems as if the children have returned to school with a renewed sense of purpose. They are demonstrating that they are very keen to learn and, perhaps more importantly, apply their past learning to solving new problems.

But what will they be learning this term? Read on to find out more!

### <u>Wonder</u>

Now that it's 2023, it is time for a new book to lead our learning this Spring Term. The book that Years 5 and 6 are studying this half term is called 'Wonder' by RJ Palacio. It tells the story of August, a boy who has suffered many operations in his short life, and who now has to go to school for the first time. Based around the novel, the children are writing character descriptions, diary entries, persuasive letters and a discussion text that looks at both sides of an argument: should August have to go to school?

## <u>Maths</u>

For the first part of the term, the focus is mainly on all aspects of

fractions: equivalence, simplifying, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing mixed and unit fractions, as well as calculating their decimal and percentage equivalents. Problem solving with fractions, decimals and percentages of amounts will follow.

### <u>Science</u>

As August suffers from a genetic illness, we are learning about genetics and inheritance in science, as well as how animals evolve over time in order to successfully adapt to their environment.

# **Geography**

The children will be discovering more about the different biomes that make up the world's habitats.

# <u>Art</u>

Children will be making portraits of each other and creating fossils out clay to recreate those found by scientists.

# <u>PE</u>

This term, Y6 will continue to swim each week whilst Y5 study dance. Both year groups will also be improving their netball skills, in readiness for the upcoming netball tournament.

# ICT/Computing

With Safer Internet Day fast approaching, the focus for Y5/6 for the first part of the term is esafety and how to be a safe and responsible user when online.

The second part of the term will be based around the book 'The Lion and The Unicorn' by Shirley Hughes. This evocative story of one boy's struggles with being evacuated during World War II, with only his father's medals to sustain his courage and bravery, will allow the children to launch themselves into aspects of British history, including learning about railway travel, and the important role that local towns have played in its development.





# <u>Maths</u>

Children will be learning about ratio and algebra, as well as consolidating their number work.

## <u>History</u>

Children will consider the impact of railways in Britain. They will learn the important role that local towns such as Darlington and Stockton played in this development.

# <u>Science</u>

Another form of travel, that of light, will be taught to the children this year.

## <u>Music</u>

After almost two terms of learning how to play the recorder using our Charanga scheme of work, the children will be aiming to perform some songs to parents.

# **Computing**

As well as continuing to learn how to keep safe online, children will be focusing on creating a presentation about the formation of the railways, using a variety of different media to share their ideas.

# <u>PSHE</u>

We have started using the Jigsaw PSHE resources and will be 'celebrating difference' and thinking about'dreams and goals', alongside Jem and Jerrie the cat.

### Key Class Reminders

- Year of Writing
- PE is on Wednesdays. Year 6 children are swimming on either Monday or Wednesday. Year 5 children have an extra PE session on Mondays.
- Homework is given out every Wednesday and should contain spellings to practise. With the SATs fast approaching, homework for Year 6 will reflect this by focusing on grammar and punctuation, reading comprehensions and maths problem solving. BBC Bitesze is a great way to support SATs learning and revision.
- Everyone in our class has logins to Mathletics and Times Table Rock Stars. Work is regularly set on Mathletics that links to the learning that we have been doing in class. There are also games to play that will improve mental maths skills. Year 5 should take the opportunity to improve their knowledge of times tables facts by focusing on the use of these two apps for their homework.
- Children can also log on to Purplemash which supports all areas of the curriculum.
- We would love it if children could read for at least 10 minutes every day, including in the holidays. A confident and happy reader who enjoys books and escaping into fiction holds the keys to the world in their hands!
- The class will be visiting Northallerton library on Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup>. If your child is not already a member, you can complete the form that will be coming home and we can arrange for your child to join.
- We will be organising a showcase of Y5/6 Spring Term learning before the Easter holidays. More information will be coming soon.
- In order to help fund the end of school trip for Year 6, there will be another bake sale towards the end of this term.
- Look out for details of an exciting end of term Y5/6 trip!