

Year 6 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1



We have had an incredibly busy first half term in Year 6!

Our topic this term is Crime and Punishment.

In English we have enjoyed reading the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar. We loved the story of Stanley Yelnats and unravelling the many mysteries of Camp Green Lake. We have produced a variety of writing based on the book such as newspaper reports, letters, diary entries and non-chronological reports. We have learned about expanded noun phrases, embedded clauses and subjunctive mood among many other things!

In Maths this term, we have been focussing on Number and place Value and the four operations. We have done lots of practise with our written methods and started to learn long division too!

In Science this term we have been learning about light in an effort to solve the mystery of a stolen laptop! We have combined our learning in science with clues from a crime scene in order to eliminate suspects and narrow down our investigation. We have learned how light travels in straight lines, how shadows can appear as different sizes depending on their proximity to a light source, the colours of the spectrum and refraction and the impact of coloured filters.

In RE we have been learning about unconditional love, Judaism and Vocation and Commitment. We have explored what it means to love unconditionally and how we experience God's unconditional love in our daily lives. We learned about Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur in our Judaism topic; and we are currently investigating vocations and the commitment people need to live out their calling in life.

Our topic in History has been Crime and Punishment throughout history. We have really enjoyed learning about the history of crime and comparing crimes committed in different periods of time! We have investigated crime and punishment in the following time periods: The Roman Empire, Angle Saxon Britain, Medieval Britain, The Early Modern Period, The Industrial Revolution and Victorian England leading up to our investigation of crime and punishment in modern Britain. We have learned that some crimes have existed for centuries, some crimes are old crimes committed in a new way and that as technology has advanced it has given birth to numerous new crimes.

In Geography we have started to learn about North America and linked this with our reading of *Holes* through the study of Texas.

In art we have been learning about still life drawing, and our first activity was to draw a still life sketch of Clyde Livingston's trainers – the very trainers that resulted in Stanley being sent to Camp Green Lake! We also made our own 'Ickabog' monster based on the short story by JK Rowling!

Our work in computing this term has focussed on coding. We have learned a variety of really tricky algorithms in order to produce a variety of games and apps. Some of the programs we have coded include a simulation of a bedroom scene in which various objects can be manipulated to produce different effects. We have also been working on a game which will identify an alien from its description based on certain criteria such as colour, number of eyes or even number of tentacles!

In PE we have been practising our skills playing handball with Ken from SAFC, and also developing out gymnastics skills with Mr Morris.

