

Henleaze Junior School Curriculum

In Year 6 children learn:

English: We have read, interpreted and responded to a range of text types including stories, diary entries persuasive texts, news articles, recounts, description, reports and poetry. The children have used class discussion and role-play, drama, presentation and written skills to work on the genres and have produced written compositions including descriptive narratives, short stories, news articles, persuasive letters, non-chronological texts and diaries. They have focussed on the writing process including planning, editing, reviewing and publishing. Word and sentence structure, grammar, spelling, handwriting and punctuation skills have been an integral part of our English lessons this year.

Maths: We have studied the following topics in maths: number & place value; addition, subtraction, multiplication & division; fractions (decimals & percentages); ratio & proportion; algebra; measurement, properties of shape; position & direction and statistics. In addition to this, the children have focussed on problem solving, reasoning and justifying their answers. They have enjoyed verbal debates, working with learning partners and groups, teaching each other and creating their own learning games and resources.

Science: We have studied the topics of working scientifically; living things and their habitats; animals including humans; evolution and light and electricity. Within these areas, the children have used and developed the following skills: planning different types of scientific enquiries; taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision; recording data and results of increasing complexity; using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests; reporting and presenting findings from enquiries and identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.

ICT: We have worked on how to use computer networks including the internet, investigating how they can provide multiple services, such as the world-wide web and the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration. The children have used search technologies effectively and can appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content and become more selective in what they use. Pupils have learnt how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour; identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact and been involved with e-safety, research, publishing/word processing and creating presentations.

History: We have studied the Second World War: where would we place the years of WW2 (1939 – 1945) and how far, in time, from our lives was the war? We answered questions such as how were children protected from bombing raids? Children also enjoyed producing interactive displays for our WW2 experiences.

We have investigated what daily life was like for the Maya: dating events; recognising some similarities and differences between periods; identifying some of the ways in which the past is represented; investigating what it was like for different ages, social backgrounds and sexes; selecting sources of information to help with enquiry; choosing reliable sources of factual evidence to describe houses, settlements, culture, leisure activities, clothes, way of life and buildings and giving reasons for and results of main events and changes.

Geography: We have studied geographical similarities and differences through the study of North America. Pupils can now better describe and understand key aspects of both physical and human geography there. They enjoyed researching, preparing and presenting their topic talks on their state.

Art: We have studied tone, tints and shade. We have investigated the works of Frida Kahlo and created collages inspired by her and made Mayan masks.

Music: We have taken part in choral singing (Twelfth Night and the Christmas Service) and studied music and dance from the Second World War era.

Design and Technology: We have designed and sewn Christmas decorations and supported Year 3 with their Moving Monster project.

Physical Education and Dance: We have enjoyed ultimate Frisbee, circuit training, Mindful Movement, basketball, football, rounders, and athletics. Children have been encouraged to increasingly organise and lead their own teams, design warm-ups/cooldowns and to question their techniques, independently assess their performance and set themselves goals for improvement.

Personal, Social and Health Education: We have studied healthy relationships, transition to secondary school, issues around migration and refugees, setting personal goals and dealing with disputes.

Religious Education: This year, we have studied faith expressed in religious art, explored why people have different faiths and beliefs and the tolerance of others' views. Cross-curricular dimensions such as identity, cultural diversity and community cohesion have provided important unifying themes to help us make sense of the world.

French: French teaching in Year 6 aims to prepare pupils for language learning at secondary school with a focus on developing key skills and confidence. Pupils have engaged in challenging activities based on the topics of music, food and school life, and have had regular opportunities to work independently and creatively within class.

