

Year 6 Learning Updates

Welcome to Year 6

Here we are again at the start of a new school year! Our two classes are: 6C led by Mrs Cleaves and 6S led by Miss Simmons. Mrs Joannou will also be teaching some of the children in year 6.



I'm Mrs Cleaves and I have been at Almond Hill for 14 years, teaching in year 6. I particularly enjoy working with year 6 and seeing the children blossom into mature, caring and responsible young people, who leave us in the summer, ready for secondary school. At Almond Hill I am the subject leader for Writing and Music. I take singing assembly every week and run the school choir. I will be recruiting some new members this year (especially some boys!) and I'm looking forward to some great performances.

Hello, I am Miss Simmons and I have been teaching at Almond Hill for 6 years. I have taught in Year 3, Year 5 and am now very excited to be in Year 6. I am especially looking forward to seeing the children I have taught in the lower school lead by example and become ambassadors to the new younger children in the school. I am the subject leader for reading and am looking forward to issuing and participating in some exciting reading activities this Autumn term. Watch out for 'Bookflix' – featuring in a home-learning book near you!



Hi. My name is Mrs Joannou and I've been teaching at Almond Hill for 18 years. I am Assistant Head and responsible for Maths across the school. I love teaching all subjects but Maths is my favourite! In my spare time, I love long distance running and really enjoy encouraging children to join in Golden Mile and Cross Country.

I am looking forward to teaching in Year 6 this year.

We are delighted that so many children are taking part in the Grafham Water visit this year (Oct 11th – 13th). There will be a meeting about the visit during September (tbc). As you can appreciate, there is a substantial amount of preparation for the visit so we would be grateful if you could return any outstanding paperwork as soon as possible. A kit list will be given out at the Grafham meeting. If you are unable to attend, all the forms will be available from the school office.

As always, the autumn term is going to be very busy indeed. Have a look at what's coming up...

On Friday 20th September, the children will be attending the 'Crucial Crew' activity morning at the Bowes Lion Centre. During the morning, the children will take part in a number of mini workshops based around personal safety and dangers in the environment. Representatives from the local community such as the police, the fire service and the electricity board talk to the children and provide a wide range of interactive sessions. Previous year 6 children have always thoroughly enjoyed the experience and I am sure that this year will be no exception.

If you would like to meet and discuss any aspect of your child's learning, please contact the main office to make an appointment to speak with Miss Simmons, Mrs Cleaves or Mrs Joannou.

We look forward to spending an exciting and eventful term with year 6.

September 2019

On 20th September, we visited Crucial Crew to learn some essential life skills. It was great fun!



October in Year 6



This month we ran our government campaign where year 6 children got into groups and formed political parties. They thought about the pledges they would like to implement in the school if they were elected. They presented these to the school and then all children took part in the vote - Our new government is 'Super 7' - led by Prime Minister Bobby.

**Super
7**

In English we have been learning about WWII. The children compiled some research on 'The Blitz' and made these wonderful information posters. These were really helpful when the children wrote their air raid stories.



The half-term home learning for Autumn asked children to produce a 'Reading River'. We were very pleased with the results that flooded in on the children's return to school! They were amazing and a really good opportunity for everyone to appreciate all that we read - even if it isn't big reveal!

Well done Year 6 for all your Reading River efforts!

In addition to their air raid stories, the children also turned their hands to poetry! We thought about modern day war this time and wrote a poem based on the differences in the lives of children from war torn countries compared to children in the western world. We then gave them some time off handwriting to copy them up using their typing skills!



In Maths Year 6 have been using the 'WUCSAC' strategy to support successful problem solving - breaking problems down into simple steps.

Read, underline, choose and estimate, solve, answer, check



WELCOME TO YEAR 6

The Year 6 team are here to support your children in all aspects of school life.



Mrs Cleaves



Miss Simmons



Mrs Start

ENGLISH

This term, our English work continues with the new whole school project on the book Flotsam. The children will be writing a description of an underwater city as part of a competition in partnership with several local schools. We will then be studying Arthur Spiderwick's Fantastical Field Guide which is about a range of mythical creatures. The children will be writing formal letters, diary entries, newspaper reports and a factual report.

In preparation for the SATs in May, we will also be focusing on many of the grammar elements of the English Curriculum.

We will continue to develop our reading skills with a range of texts that will be studied in English and in other curricular areas.

In foundation subjects we will be focusing on watercolour painting, Music (Classroom Jazz) and History-The Mayans. Our work in computing will focus on developing spreadsheets for a range of purposes.

In PE, we will be learning basketball skills and Sports hall athletics.

Maths

In maths this term we will be continuing to work on arithmetic skills and problem solving as well as fractions, decimals and percentages.

Times tables are a key aspect of maths learning and revising them at home will really have a positive impact in all areas of maths. Don't forget TT Rockstars!

Booster Classes

We have been delighted to see so many children attending maths and reading booster classes after school.

These classes will continue until the SATs in May. However, there will be some weeks when teachers are not available for booster lessons so please check weekly newsletters on line. Classes will start again on the week beginning 13th January.

If you would like to meet with us to discuss any aspect of your child's learning, please make an appointment to speak with Miss Simmons or Mrs Cleaves.

January 2020

At the beginning of term, we have been working on writing based on the book, Flotsam by David Wiesner. Look at our fantastic work on display!



February 2020

Some of year 6 pupils attended the Stevenage and North Herts Schools Writing Awards ceremony on Friday 7th February.



We produced some fabulous art projects linked to our writing project: Flotsam



In art we have been painting landscapes using watercolours.



In science, we have been investigating microorganisms, including yeast.

