



Ms Carlie Bassett



Ms Polin Persad

## Introduction

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Year 6. Our learners have been working on Digital Citizenship and learning about the appropriate use of the digital devices to which they have access at school and home. Their investigations have led them to discover and explore the impact of cyberbullying and the need to **THINK** before posting anything online or posting personal information. Year 6 has also been working on reading with the learners in Year 1 and Year 2 and have been able to share some of the strategies that they practice as good readers with their reading buddies.

## Unit of Inquiry

We are just about to finish with our *Past Civilisations Shape Present Day Systems* unit. Our learners have been introduced to the Big 6 research process and have done an excellent job working through the steps. They have done especially well with applying strategies for using information that would help them to answer the research questions which they had formulated based on their interests. Learners have made very good connections between the ways in which the components of a civilisation lead to its success and development and were able to identify the key contributions of the major civilisations of the past to present day societies.

## English

In reading, our learners have explored the strategy of monitoring their thinking to ensure that they understand what they are reading. They have also continued to work on responding to literature and have been encouraged to continue to work toward being more reflective in their reading record entries. This week we worked on honing note-taking skills. Learners were given the task of determining important ideas and distinguishing between important information and interesting details in a number of texts.

In writing, each group has produced a draft of their shared writing assignment on Video Games. Learners were then given the task of becoming peer editors where they were able to work on developing their conferencing skills. They will now use the feedback they receive from their 'editors' to improve their writing pieces. They are indeed working very well through the writing process.

## Mathematics

In mathematics learners have been working on problem solving. Using a process to help guide them, learners have been able to identify strategies that would allow them to most efficiently answer various word problems or number stories. We have also continued to work on identifying patterns and estimating and rounding. We will begin our unit on factors and multiples next week. The class are also enjoying playing a range of mathematical games to get them revising number facts.

## Languages other than English

### Chinese

The Year 6 children have learned how to introduce their friends. Those learners who were with us last year are able to present their friend independently with a range of vocabulary. New learners are able to understand sentences and also to produce a few sentences in class. The learners who have a greater understanding of the Chinese language are working on extended activities and some time is also spent in small groups to give them a variety of work. All learners also learnt a Mid-Autumn Festival song and made a mooncake by themselves. They have shown great interest in Chinese culture. Here is the friend song and phrases they have also been practising in class:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxA94HGo9A>

<http://quizlet.com/25532802/y6-friends-flash-cards/>

## French

The Year 6 learners have been investigating how to give opinions of hobbies and sports. In small groups they composed their own songs using the vocabulary they have been learning. They had great fun making videos of these and even more fun watching them! Each learner is now in the middle of creating their own information page about hobbies and clubs in which they are interested.

## Music

After much planning and research the musical instrument brochures are finished and are well presented and very informative. Learners chose an instrument to research and many fun facts were discovered, and questions asked: “Why is a flute part of the woodwind when it is made of metal?”, “Why do the oboe players turn so red?”. As well as research, the learners have moved and reacted to music and begun to learn about the Orff instruments.

## Art

After completing their non-figurative art pieces, learners have moved into working with 3D form using clay. They are building their skills in working with the material. They have experimented with constructing using slabs and are moving on to coil constructions after which they will design their own piece with a construction plan to support it. There are still a number of learners who have not brought in an art smock/old t-shirt and are advised to do so. If learners have missed an art session during the week they are welcome to come in after lunch on a Wednesday to complete their work. They are encouraged to complete their final piece of an ongoing art project.

## Health and Physical Education

We have continued the focus on teamwork and collaboration through an Ultimate Frisbee unit. Learners have developed their passing and catching skills and explored the tactics that help their team be successful in a game. The Spirit of the Game has been a major focus of the unit as the children learn to self-officiate and understand how this relates to the Nexus ‘**RECIPE**’. The final lesson was a learner-led self-assessment of how well they have each learnt to apply the rules and the Spirit of the Game philosophy.

# Reminders

Term 1 Holiday starts on Saturday, 5 October. We begin Term 2 on Monday, 21 October. We wish everyone a restful break and happy holidays.

