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| **Year 6 Topic: “Exploring China” Spring Term A, Year 2018/2019**This half term Year 6 will be learning through the topic, “Exploring China”. Below is a summary of what your child will be covering in each subject, with suggested activities you could do to support the work done in school. |
| **English:**Our ideas for our writing will come from reading and talking about....* Writing letters, both formal and informal for a variety of purposes.
* The use of language which effectively describes feelings and emotions.
* Using factual information to aid in designing and writing pamphlets about certain places.
* Writing texts that compare and contrast differences.
* Using many different types of sentences and a range of punctuation in writing.

**Parents please would you:*** Talk to your child about how they can use different types of punctuation.
* Talk to your child about using more advanced/interesting vocabulary.
 | **Maths:**Maths topics we will cover include:* The measurement of volume and how to convert unit of capacity.
* The measurement of mass, including g, kg, and tonnes, and converting between these units.
* The measurement of time and using timetables that involve seconds, minutes, hours and days.
* The measurement and drawing of angles in a variety of 2D shapes, including finding missing angles.
* Reasoning problems and investigations using a range of mathematical skills.

**Parents please would you:*** Encourage your children to learn the x tables, (up to 12 x 12), if they have not done so already.
* Use mental maths in everyday activities, e.g., shopping.
 | **Science:****“Living Things and Their Habitats”**We will be investigating:* How we use characteristics to group organisms.
* Carl Linnaeus and his classification system.
* What are micro-organisms and how are they grouped.
* Comparing and contrasting organisms in our local environment vs other parts of the world.

**Parents please would you:*** Talk to your child about the different animals and habitats that exist across the world and what they need to survive.
* Discuss the different types of animals that live in our local area vs that of other areas.
 | **ICT:** **“Spolder”**We will focus on using the Spolder Programme.**Skills and Techniques**We will:* Use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output.
* Use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.

**Parents please would you:*** Allow your child to extract information from websites approved by you.
* Discuss how websites and apps require programming (coding) in order to operate.
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| **History/Geography:****“Exploring China”** We will be:* Investigating the countries of the world, particularly focussing on China.
* Investigating the natural and man-made geographical features of China.
* Discussing the importance of cultural traditions in China, including Chinese New Year.

**Parents please would you:*** Get an atlas or a map of the world and look at the locations and geographical features of a range of countries.
 | **R.E.:** **“Being a Sacramental People”**We will be:* Looking at the different sacraments in the Catholic faith, particularly those that heal – Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.
* Learning about the saying “Bidden not bidden, God is always present.”

**Parents please would you:*** Discuss the Old and New Testaments.
* Talk to your children about the importance of the sacraments in the Catholic faith.
 | **Other:****PE: Dance**We will be:* Performing dances, which use a range of movement patterns, chosen to represent certain thoughts/feelings/events. Developing flexibility, strength, technique.

**Parents please would you:*** Ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school. Each item must be clearly labelled with your child’s name. PE kits remain in school for the duration of the half term.
* PE lessons this half term are on Wednesdays, although PE lessons can occur on any day of the week, especially if the Wednesday session has been cancelled.
 | **Homework:*** Children have reading homework every night. Please sign the reading record when your child has finished reading their book. Regular reading is the most important of all homework.
* Spelling lists are tested on Fridays.
* Reading Comprehension and/or Maths homework is also given weekly, to be returned on Fridays.
* Arithmetic skills are tested weekly.
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| **Art/Design:**We will be:* Exploring different types of themes and patterns that exist in Chinese art.
* Investigating calligraphy and how this is used to write Chinese characters.
 | **Music:**We will be:* Composing patterns and rhythms.
* Learning and creating songs for performances.
* Reading musical notation.
 | **Personal, Social & Health Education.****“Transition”*** This theme provides opportunities for children to think about changes in their lives and prepare themselves for secondary school.
 | **Some Useful Websites:**<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/><http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/><http://www.topmarks.co.uk/> |