

Welcome back, Year 6 – we all hope that you had a wonderful break and that you feel rested and refreshed! Term 4 has a lot to offer, as we delve into the fascinatingly cut-throat world of The Tudors. Our focus will be on the origins of the Tudor dynasty, how Henry Tudor came to unify the houses of York and Lancaster at the Battle of Bosworth Field and then how Henry VIII worked to make England a power in Europe. Along the way, we will look at wives, conflict with the church and the personality of who has become, debatably, our most iconic monarch, Henry VIII. To finish, we will look at Elizabeth I, the queen who became a power house on the international stage, striking fear into the hearts of men.

In Art, we will look at the work of Tudor portrait artists, considering the purpose, composition and style of some famous portraits. We will then focus on the skills needed to create our own miniature portraits! Meanwhile, our focus in PSHEE and DT will be the development and financing of our Enterprise products, for sale at the May Fayre. We can't wait to see what everyone comes up with!

The Tudors – terrifying or terrific?

Core subjects

In **Reading**, we will be looking at the work of the great Tudor playwright, William Shakespeare. Tying in with our work on Tudor exploration, we will explore and perform extracts from Shakespeare's own depiction of a dangerous voyage in his play *The Tempest* and compare this to other texts about journeys.

Our work in Reading will lead us to create pieces of **writing** based on the characters, settings and events of *The Tempest*. We will create newspaper articles reporting on the bizarre storm that brought the characters to this desert island, and use a graphic novel version of the text to help us to write our own dialogues between characters.

In **Maths**, we will continue to keep our written methods well practised, and explore some new knowledge with volume, area and perimeter of shapes, mental and written strategies of addition and subtraction, properties of 2 and 3-d shapes, ratio and proportion and pie charts and statistics.



Home Learning

Please note: children are to keep practising spellings as part of their homework each week, and should also ensure they spend some time on TT Rock stars every week in order to fine tune their times tables knowledge. Although we encourage independence with homework in Year 6, please make sure that your child is practising their times tables and spellings regularly.

Key dates and events

As usual, we will be launching our topic with an exciting activity, and landing with a Tudor banquet. In addition, we are delighted that Year 6 have been given the opportunity to participate in a music project for several local schools run by Wiltshire Music Centre. This will involve a number of workshops in school, culminating in a final performance at WMC – more details soon!

Other dates for your diaries:

The Hobbit performance and workshop – 27th February; World Book Day activities – Friday 8th March; ROAs given to parents 22nd March; Parent consultations 26th & 28th March, Arts Week- 1st–4th April.