

Welcome to the Summer Term and your child's final term of primary school!

Can you believe we have arrived at the final term of your child's time at Great Totham Primary School? As you can imagine, we will be concentrating on getting the children ready and excited for secondary school whilst ensuring they enjoy this last summer together. SATS take place towards the end of May and over the next few weeks we focus on the children being well prepared and positive. We will then have super events such as Bikeability, Sports Day, the fete and, of course, our Leavers' Show to look forward to.

Miss Vass will shortly be writing with the teaching arrangements regarding the final half term and in the meantime if you have any concerns or questions please contact us via our email addresses:

Mr Fowles: mr.fowles@greattotham.essex.sch.uk Miss Campling: miss.campling@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

Homework

The children will be set a weekly maths task and either a reading or SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) homework on LBQ. Both pieces of homework will be set on Mondays and due in by Thursday evening of the same week. This enables us to support children on Friday by going back over areas of learning as needed.

English

The children will be given plenty of opportunities to write using skills and techniques they have learnt. The children will write about their time here at Great Totham, their personal interests and hobbies and their aspirations for the future. They will also write a narrative based around shadows, which links to our science. Following this, they will be writing biographies of influential female musicians. We will still be encouraging a love of reading and will introduce new literature to the children throughout the curriculum. Please continue to support your child's reading at home by discussing books and other texts as well as still sharing books.

Dates for your diary

29th April: Outdoor learning

30th April: Swimming starts

Monday 5th May: Bank holiday

Saturday 10th May: Sponsored walk

Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May: SATs

Monday 19th May: Sports Day PM

Tuesday 20th May: Bikeability begins (details to follow)

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May: Half Term

Monday 2nd June: Inset Day

Monday 9th June: Class photos

Friday 11th July: Summer Fete (5-8pm)

Thursday 17th July: Year 6 production

Monday 21st July: Leavers Disco

Tuesday 22nd July: Y6 Leavers Presentation

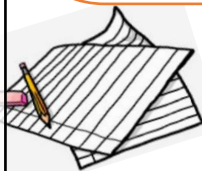
Maths

Maths will begin with revision in preparation for the SATs and we will revisit key skills from our KS2 learning. After the SATs, we will be exploring maths through our Life Skills curriculum. We will introduce children to budgeting through real life scenarios such as picking a career, buying a house and learning more about adulthood to understand personal finances. The Summer Fete will provide opportunities for the children to think about profit and loss. A further focus will be scaling and drawing larger or smaller versions of famous paintings.

PE

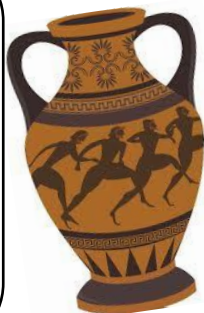
Using the skills they have learnt in gymnastics throughout their time at Great Totham, they will produce a floor routine. The focus will then move to athletics, which will include high jumping using the scissor kick action, improving long jump technique by incorporating a run up and continuing to develop their running and throwing skills.

Cricket will be another focus area, with the children improving and developing their skills before learning to play Dynamo cricket. The children will refine swimming techniques and learn how to safely save someone from drowning. Towards the latter end of the summer term, the children will be able to test their compass skills by orienteering around the school.



Art

Linking back to our work on Greek art the children will learn how to make slab pots. This will build on their clay-working skills (coil and pinch pots). Following this, the children will learn how to draw people in proportion and have the opportunity to further develop their sketching techniques by showing increasing levels of tone and texture.



DT

In DT, the children will learn about the history and use of bunting before exploring different stitches. Then they will learn how to join material using applique to create their own bunting which will be a feature at the fete.



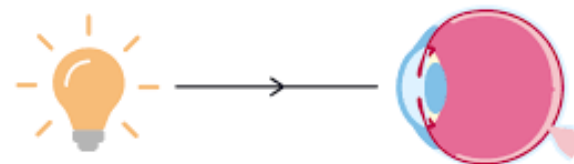
Music

The theme for this unit is identity and how it can be expressed through music. We will mainly be listening to female musicians and female led groups. Then, the children will explore how to show their own identity through music. They will learn how to write lyrics and compose a simple melody. They may even be able to rap!



Science

Starting by investigating how light travels and how shadows are formed, the children will develop their understanding of how to carry out fair tests. They will also learn about the eye and how we see things. After revising their previous learning about electricity, the children will explore voltage, resistance and earth. They will further develop their investigative skills and use recognised symbols in circuit diagrams.



Topic: Trading Places

Our topic 'Trade' is Geography based. To set the scene, the children will become 'traders' and experience the problems faced when they are able to deal with some parties but not others. This will help give a basic introduction to what trade is and how decisions can be affected. Mainly focusing on the UK, the children will learn about raw materials and the terms import and export. Finally, we will look at Fairtrade products and consider how our carbon footprint can be affected by trade.



Life Skills

This is a key part of our Summer Term. Our aim is to ensure children are prepared for the next step in their journey. We will be focusing on two key areas: transitioning to secondary school and RSE (relationship and sex education). More details about this will follow in the coming weeks.



Computing

We are really excited to be able to help children create their own mini documentary – A Day in the Life of a Year 6 Student!

Using iMovie, children will capture footage, photos and explanations of what life is like for a GTPS Year 6 pupil, ready to show Year 5 as they prepare for their final year at primary school.



R E

The children will develop their understanding of how religion can cause both peace and conflict. They will draw upon real accounts of war to discuss whether war is ever appropriate. This will of course be sensitively handled at an age-appropriate level.

French

The children will continue to develop their understanding of reading, saying and writing sentences in French. They will also have the opportunity to revise some key vocabulary and phrases taught throughout KS2.