

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

We are very excited and proud to be guiding the children through this term and we hope that they are all raring to go. This is an important term as they complete their time at Great Totham and begin preparing for the transition to their secondary schools. As you will be aware, the SATs tests are fast approaching and we have everything in place to ensure the children feel comfortable and ready to give their best. Following the SATs, we have lots of exciting activities planned: our end of year production, sports day, bikeability, the summer fete and a trip to Crucial Crew. As the term draws to a close, we will enjoy looking back and reflecting on the children's memories of their time spent here and celebrating all that they have achieved throughout primary school.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries (especially regarding the SATs) on our email addresses:

Miss Strudwick: miss.strudwick@greattotham.essex.sch.uk Mr Hunt: mr.hunt@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

Homework

Throughout the term, the children will be set weekly maths and 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 to go back over areas of learning as needed.

Dates for your diary

30th April: Swimming starts

Monday 6th May: Bank holiday

Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May: SATs

Monday 20th May: Sports Day

Monday 21st May: Bikeability begins (details to follow)

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May: Half Term

Monday 10th June: Class photos

Friday 12th July: School Fete (5-8pm)

Thursday 18th July: Year 6 production

Details of the final week of term will follow at a later date.

Maths

Maths will begin with revision in preparation for the SATs and we will revisit everything taught since September. 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. We will also take a further look at scaling and will be drawing larger or smaller versions of famous paintings. We will also use the Summer Fete as a way to get children to think about profit and loss.

English

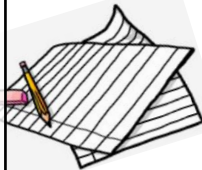
Throughout this term, the children will be given plenty of opportunities to write using all their skills and techniques. Some of this will be personal as the children will get to write about their time here at Great Totham, their personal interests and hobbies and their aspirations for the future. They will also write a narrative based around shadows, which links to our science. As well as this, we 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.

PE

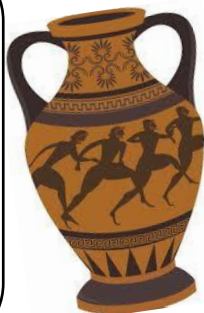
We will begin by developing the children's gymnastic skills, which will lead into children producing a floor routine using all the skills they have learnt throughout their time at Great Totham. We then focus on athletics, which will include: high jumping using the scissor kick action, improving long jump by incorporating a run up and learning how to throw like a shot-putter or discus thrower.

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 premises.



Art

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



DT

This term we are focusing on bunting. The children will learn about the history and use of bunting before exploring different stitches and learning how to join material using applique to create their own bunting which will be a feature at the fete.



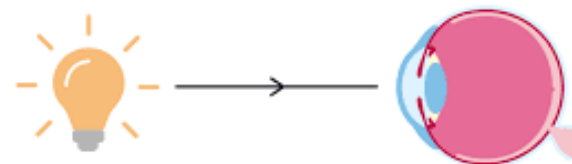
Music

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 and how this can affect the decisions which have to be made. This will help give a basic introduction to what trade is. Mainly focusing on the UK, the children will learn about raw materials and the terms imports and exports. Finally, we will look at Fairtrade and how all of this affects our carbon footprint.



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.



RE

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.