

Class 6's Autumn Newsletter

Welcome back everyone - I hope you all had a fantastic summer break. Below is an overview of what we will be learning this term. Additional information will be shared at the curriculum evening on **Tuesday 9th September at 5.00pm**, but please feel free to pop in to see me if you have any questions before then.

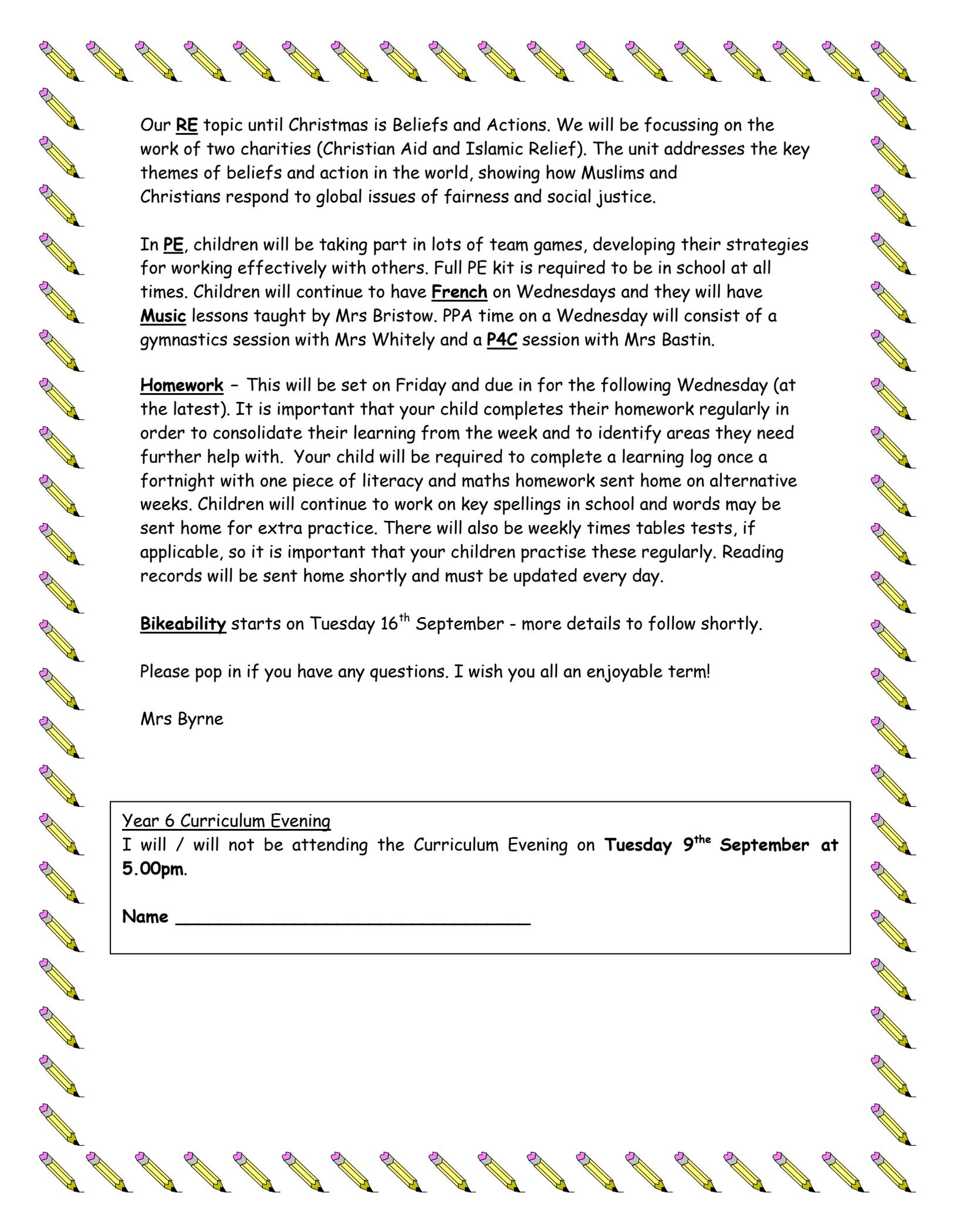
Literacy - First we'll be studying *The Scream* by Joan Aiken and later in the term *Skellig* by David Almond. We will use drama to explore characterisation and identify how writers create suspense. Exciting writing opportunities await as the children become the authors of their own suspense stories. Towards the end of the term, the children will take the role of roving reporters, creating their own online newspaper to be shared with our Comenius partners.

Numeracy - We will start the term by developing our understanding of place value involving numbers beyond a thousand and decimal numbers. Children will learn to multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals using efficient written methods. Throughout the term pupils will practise using problem solving strategies to apply their knowledge and understanding. We will also be focusing on mental maths, practising the key skills and more complex methods, as appropriate to your child.

Science - This term we will be looking at living things and their habitats. We will be fine tuning our observation skills to look closely at living creatures noting similarities and differences. Pupils will then use this information to classify creatures into groups. We will also be learning about food chains and interdependence, focusing on river habitats and the importance of preserving the natural environment.

Our new **Geography** topic is Rivers. Children will be working on an exciting project to investigate rivers near and far. Pupils will learn about key river processes and demonstrate their understanding by creating their own river model. This project will take the children's learning outside as they learn to develop a range of fieldwork skills and a river walk is planned in for later in the term (more details to follow). Children will also become expert map readers as they learn to use 4 figure grid references and Ordnance Survey symbols. They will then use this knowledge to plan their river walk through Nether Heyford.

Computing - Pupils will be set the challenge of creating their very own smartphone app. They will begin by researching the capabilities of a smartphone and scoping interesting problems, through market research, design and development to marketing.



Our **RE** topic until Christmas is Beliefs and Actions. We will be focussing on the work of two charities (Christian Aid and Islamic Relief). The unit addresses the key themes of beliefs and action in the world, showing how Muslims and Christians respond to global issues of fairness and social justice.

In **PE**, children will be taking part in lots of team games, developing their strategies for working effectively with others. Full PE kit is required to be in school at all times. Children will continue to have **French** on Wednesdays and they will have **Music** lessons taught by Mrs Bristow. PPA time on a Wednesday will consist of a gymnastics session with Mrs Whitely and a **P4C** session with Mrs Bastin.

Homework - This will be set on Friday and due in for the following Wednesday (at the latest). It is important that your child completes their homework regularly in order to consolidate their learning from the week and to identify areas they need further help with. Your child will be required to complete a learning log once a fortnight with one piece of literacy and maths homework sent home on alternative weeks. Children will continue to work on key spellings in school and words may be sent home for extra practice. There will also be weekly times tables tests, if applicable, so it is important that your children practise these regularly. Reading records will be sent home shortly and must be updated every day.

Bikeability starts on Tuesday 16th September - more details to follow shortly.

Please pop in if you have any questions. I wish you all an enjoyable term!

Mrs Byrne

Year 6 Curriculum Evening

I will / will not be attending the Curriculum Evening on **Tuesday 9th September at 5.00pm.**

Name _____