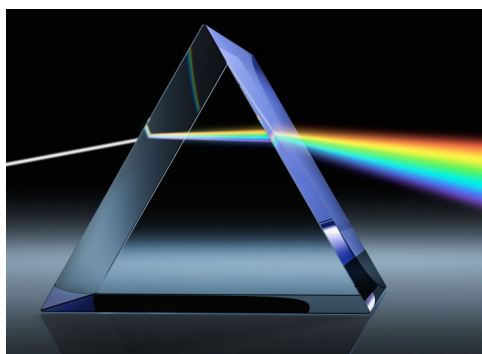




Welcome to the final half term in year 6! I hope that you are all feeling refreshed and rested after the half term and that the children are ready to go out with a bang with all the exciting activities and learning opportunities we have in store for them!

Our **learning challenge** topic, the Ancient Islamic Civilisation, continues this half term with the class exploring the legacy of the period as well as investigating the effect the silk road had in spreading the teachings of the scholars in the House of Wisdom. We will also look at the spread of Islam during this period and compare it to the spread of Christianity from the old Roman Empire. Alongside our topic, we will continue to enjoy the Saviour Pirotta story, the Golden Horsemen of Baghdad, which really brings the Baghdad of 900AD to life with its exciting adventures and interesting historical links.



In **science** we will be completing our final unit of the year about light. We have started thinking about how light helps us see and will shortly embark on a range of exciting investigations and other activities designed to deepen understanding.

The **RE** we are completing our final main topic, "Why do people go on pilgrimage?" by debating the twin points of why others go on pilgrimage and whether we would go. The debates

have already revealed a deep understanding of the topic. Once this is complete, we will spend the last few weeks conducting small group research into different aspects of religion and reporting back to the rest of the class.



Then, our final activity is preparing for our end of year production (details to follow) which is already causing much hilarity during initial read throughs. Please encourage and assist your child in learning their lines as this is a lovely opportunity for them to shine!



We will also be fitting in a leavers' service, a trip to see the Terrible Tudors at the Alhambra as well as bowling, bikeability and sports day into the last few weeks of term. In amongst all that is transition to secondary school. The children are already excited about their transition days and some local schools will also be sending members of staff to speak to the East Morton Children to further help them with transition.

We've selected some additional high-quality books that link to our English units and help stretch and inspire our writers, especially those working at Greater Depth. Parents who wish to support reading at home may find the following titles particularly beneficial:

- The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad – narrative, moral dilemma, setting description (Narrative, moral dilemma, descriptive writing)

Continued..



Class Newsletter continued

Suggested reads:

- Asha and the Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan. Encourages reflective writing and moral depth, supporting Greater Depth writers in exploring theme.
- The Arrival by Shaun Tan. Develops inference and subtle storytelling, supporting sophisticated narrative construction.
- The Viewer by Gary Crew. Builds ambiguity and layered meaning, encouraging more complex reader interpretation.
- Stories from Arabian Nights. Provides rich, descriptive language and complex moral themes, supporting advanced narrative voice. Exploring character agency and moral courage.
- The Garbage King by Elizabeth Laird. Set in Ethiopia, a dual-perspective narrative explores moral dilemmas, inequality, and empathy supports developing viewpoint and inference.
- The Girl Who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Farook. Adventure with a strong moral dilemma at its core (stealing to help the poor). Rich jungle settings and themes of justice and loyalty mirror the kinds of narrative challenge in Golden Horsemen of Baghdad.
- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers Edition) by William Kamkwamba. Though set in Malawi rather than the Middle East, this text explores resilience, morality, and inventive problem-solving.

Finally, as many of you may already know, I will soon be starting my maternity leave. It has been a pleasure teaching and supporting your children, and I am incredibly proud of all they have achieved this year. I would like to wish all of Year 6 the very best as they move on to the next stage of their education. I am sure they will continue to thrive and make us all proud. Thank you for your support and kindness throughout the year.

As usual, if you have any concerns or queries, please get in touch.

Ms Daykin-Pont