

# Ask Me About

## Nightingales 2024-2025

October 2024

Well done to all the children in Nightingales, who have settled so well into the new term and who have continued to show the one thing we asked from them, effort.

### English

Our focus in writing has been to develop our descriptive writing skills, incorporating atmosphere and dialogue into first and third person writing. The children have shown the ability to create some fabulous writing when following the skills practised, and will hopefully be able to use and develop these skills in independent tasks throughout the year. Of course, good writers come from being good readers and we have exposed the children to quality texts such as 'The Wolves of Currumpaw' and the gritty real life adventures found in 'Survivors'. Please ensure your child reads daily and expose themselves to a range of quality texts. The links below will take you to recommended reads for each year group: <https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-5/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-6-pupils-ks2-age-10-11/>

Year 6 readers, remember to keep reading the book for your book club and be ready to discuss it in your book group at the end of the term.



### Maths

We have focused on understanding place value, addition, subtraction and multiplication, working towards the curriculum objectives for each year group. Some children have found multiplying by 2 digits challenging, so any practice given to this would be appreciated. To help further, some of the children need to speed up and develop their times tables knowledge- as we progress through the year, the children will need this knowledge more and more. They can of course use Times Tables Rock Stars to develop their skills. <https://trockstars.com/>

## Art/DT

In Art, we have seen some colourful and exciting batik work produced by the children. The children have had to make wooden frames, explore the idea of using a resist in design, create and adapt their ideas, before finally producing a final piece using wax, ink and silk.

## Geography

We had a great day out when we visited the Natural History Museum in London to find out about earthquakes and volcanoes, which greatly enhanced the children's understanding of the topic work covered in class.

## Other subjects

We have been covering French as our chosen language, recapping some key vocabulary for year 6 and introducing the language to year 5. In Religion we found out about the importance of the five pillars in the Muslim faith and what happens when pilgrims visit the Hajj in Saudi Arabia. Computing has been a reminder to the children of the importance of e-safety- spotting dangers and learning how to respond appropriately. For further information use this link:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Science has allowed the children to find out more about Living Things and their Habitats. In PE, as a class, we have enjoyed developing our tag rugby skills, some children making super progress over the term. Year 6 have continued to go swimming, while year 5 practised their tag rugby skills with Ms. Keeling.

## Miscellaneous

Home work will continue to go out through Google Classroom, with the expectation that year 6 do complete the tasks set and year 5 can choose to do so if they wish. Well done to all the children who have taken on new responsibilities throughout the school (House Captains, Peace-Keeper, Writing Ambassadors, Sports Crew). Also, well done to the children who have represented the school so well when attending Writing and Maths workshops with the other HET schools.

I am sure you are aware that we have a student teacher, Miss. May, working in the class with the children; she will be with us for another 4 weeks, increasing her input in the lessons and groups, before returning in the summer term for a further extended stay. She has been a very welcome addition to our staff, making a good impression and proving to be a good role model for the children.

Finally, just to say a big thank you for attending the parents meetings, it was great to catch up. Should you need to speak to us about anything, we are always available, just contact the office.



*Have a great half-term,*

*Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Henson and Miss. May.*

