



# Year 6

Guide To

Autumn Term 2



Our curriculum at Summerlea is creative and designed to forge links between the different areas of learning. Each topic we study is led by a driving question to get us thinking. We have listed the main curriculum areas that will be addressed by each question and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This half term our driving question will be...

*“What does it take to survive?”*

**English:** We will be using the novel ‘Hatchet’ by Gary Paulsen as our main stimulus, our writing and reading activities will be based on the survival story of Brian, the main character and the setting/situations he finds himself in. We will also be looking at narrating our own survival video, researching and presenting information on Canada - the setting of the novel and also reading about a number of survival stories and techniques.

**Geography:** We will be using atlases, google earth and a range of other resources to learn more about Canada, its terrain, location, climate, flora and fauna and comparing it to the UK.

**Science:** Through this topic, we will learn about the heart and how the circulation system works – we will link this to our survival topic by thinking about frostbite and hypothermia. We will also be looking at diet and how differences in diet can affect the body, again, we will look at the best kind of diet for survival and extreme conditions.

**Art:** Linking with themes of our class novel we will be looking at how artists use nature and natural resources to create pieces- Andy Goldsworthy will be our artist study.

# Mathematics:

## Our main objectives are to:

### Number: Fractions

Use common factors to simplify fractions; use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination.

Compare and order fractions, including fractions greater than 1.

Generate and describe linear number sequences (with fractions)

Add and subtract fractions with different denominations and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions.

Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer in its simplest form [for example  $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8}$ ]

Divide proper fractions by whole numbers [for example  $\frac{1}{3} \div 2 = \frac{1}{6}$ ]

Associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents [for example, 0.375] for a simple fraction [for example  $\frac{3}{8}$ ]

Recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages, including in different contexts.

### Geometry: position and direction

Describe positions on the full coordinate grid (all four quadrants).

Draw and translate simple shapes on the coordinate plane, and reflect them in the axes.

***Any help at home with learning number facts, times-tables and telling the time would be beneficial!***

***Talk to your child's Class Teacher for ways to help.***

# Year 6 news and information

## **The team:**

*Mrs Tedbury (Elder Class Teacher- Monday and Tuesday; Senior leader)*

*Mrs Kerrison-Pierce (Elder Class Teacher- Wednesday-Friday)*

*Mr Anderson (Cherry Class Teacher)*

*Mrs Barton (Learning Support Assistant)*

## **Exciting days and events:**

*Survival Day: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017*

*Survival workshop for parents/carers: 2pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017*

*Upper Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert: 10.15am Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017*

## **PE Days:**

*Mondays – indoor PE*

*Thursdays – outdoor PE*

*NB: We ask that your child has their PE kit in school every day as there may be unforeseen timetable changes or additional activities planned; warmer kit-jogging bottoms and jumpers-can be brought in for outdoor PE. Please ensure this comes straight back into school if they take it home after a sports club.*

## **Coats/snacks/drinks and equipment:**

*Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for cold/wet weather as we will often still go out when it is raining and remember to ensure they have a separate jumper for outdoor PE. We ask that every child has a water bottle in school and that break time snacks are put in the class box as soon as they come in in the morning. Children only need one pencil case in school and this must fit in to their drawers.*

*Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Class Teacher if you have any concerns or queries; our doors are always open.*

## Homework



*After considering responses to our homework survey we have made some changes to our policy. Homework is non-statutory and, as previously, there is no requirement to complete a set amount each week.*

*Our minimum expectation is that all children should read regularly, ideally every day. Spelling and mental/oral maths practise is also important and homework for these two areas will also be set regularly.*

### **Reading**

*At Summerlea we are positively promoting reading for enjoyment. We want all children to love reading and be able to talk about books they have enjoyed or learned from! Every half-term our school-wide theme will change and we are encouraging children to choose and share texts that fit this in the hope they will be exposed to different types of stories, styles and authors.*

*This half-term's theme is... **Celebrities and Heroes***

*Reading and understanding a full range of text-types and authors will not only bring pleasure but can also develop comprehension, spelling and writing skills. Encourage your child to share and talk about texts with you, visit your local library, hear them read, read to them and enjoy!*



### **Spellings**

*Spellings will be set every week and sent home in our planners.*

*There will be 7 words from our pattern we are learning at school and also 3 individual words that the children choose from a set list of errors in their own work.*

*We have included a spelling strategy sheet to give you a few ideas on how to practise these at home.*



### **Maths**

*We encourage the practising of key mental maths skills and would like children to practise their number bonds, doubling and halving and times tables.*

*More practise will lead to better retention!*

*Your child has their own Mental Maths Passport. In your child's passport is a list of times tables as well as our 'Around The World' objective list. Please spend time practising times tables and your child's Around The World target at home. You can tick them if you think your child has achieved a times table or Around The World target. They will be regularly checked and assessed in class.*

## ***6 things to try before half term...***

In addition, and in the same vein as the National Trust's '50 things to do before you are 11 ¾' we provide a list of suggested activities, linked to the year group topic, your child might like to have a go at during the course of a half term. The suggestions are simply that; ideas to get you and your child thinking about fun and creative ways into exploring learning themes.

***Who was Ernest Shackleton? How does he link to our topic of survival?  
Present your findings in your own way!***

***Can you find out/research any survival stories that interest you? How did the individuals survive? What did they have to survive? Choose your own way to present your findings!***

***There is a famous radio programme called Desert Island discs, where a celebrity chooses 10 songs, a luxury item and a book to take to their desert island. What would you take and why? How would your items help you 'survive' on the island?***

***There are some extreme locations in the world where survival would be tough. Can you think of any and present information you have found out about what makes them difficult places to live in?***

***Some plants and animals have very interesting ways to survive and protect themselves from predators. Research and present your findings!***

***What would be your ultimate survival gadget? What would it do? How? How would you advertise it? Share your design ideas with us-perhaps your adverts will persuade us it's a must-have for any adventurer!***

***If you think of any more topic related tasks to do feel free!  
We'd love to hear about, look at and learn from them.***

## Preview/review

*At the beginning of each half term we would also like to invite your child to reflect on previous learning and look forward to new learning.*

*Last half term your big question was  
**What makes you...you?***

*What did you learn?*

*This half term our big question is  
**What does it take to survive?***

*What do you already know?*