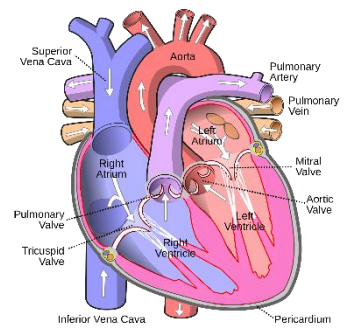




Year 6 Curriculum Update Spring 2026



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Theme

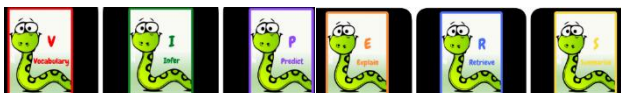
This Spring term is a busy one filled with exciting projects! Our theme is Gruesome Deeds (which loosely covers all things that are a little bit scary!) Over this term we will look at how punishments have changed from medieval times to modern day and how the role of the police and prisons have grown. Children find this topic fascinating and always ask lots of questions. Please be reassured that all content is age appropriate. Our key texts are No Ballet Shoes in Syria by Catherine Bruton and Sky Song by Abi Elphinstone. We will also be using sections from Harry Potter by JK Rowling.

English

In English writing lessons, children have been learning how to add complexity to simple sentences, and we will continue to expand on this, looking at the use of dashes and relative clauses. We will also consolidate direct speech, which the children have been working hard on in the Autumn term. This term, children will be writing a number of narrative pieces to entertain the reader. These will be linked to the novels we are reading and will have a fantasy and adventure theme. We will explore the wonderful Jabberwocky poem, with children writing their own stanzas about the battle with the fearful monster. Spellings following a particular spelling pattern will be given out as usual each week on a Monday for learning by the weekend. As part of their homework, the expectation is to practise 10 games of spellings a week. If this is a problem, please let us know and laptops will be available for children to use in school. The expectation continues for children to use joined handwriting in all their subjects. They will need to write in a black or blue pen, which they need to bring in themselves. Getting into good habits with stationery is good preparation for next year. More information about how English is taught can be found in the curriculum section of the school website.

Guided reading and class novels

No Ballet Shoes in Syria by Catherine Bruton and Sky Song by Abi Elphinstone will be the two class novels for this term. The children will continue to have four sessions of guided reading a week and we will be building their resilience in answering comprehension questions. Two days will be linked to these class novels and two will be based on a text linking to the theme or foundation subjects the children are covering. There will be opportunities to read aloud to the class, both as individuals, in small groups and as a whole class. In reading sessions, the children will be exploring texts in more depth, looking at questions about author's intent and deep inference, whilst consolidating inference questions. Children will be learning to make a point and back it up with evidence from the text. We will also be building up the children's resilience when tackling longer pieces of text. As always, we would ask for your support in ensuring they are reading on a regular basis at home. We now have several Gold Reading Olympians and are encouraging children to finish their Bronze and Silver challenges as quickly as possible so they can complete the Gold challenges by the end of the year.



Mathematics

The children will continue to have a daily maths lesson with a teacher from the Year 6 team. These groups will be arranged to best support each child individually and are fluid. All groups will follow the same Year 6 maths curriculum. The focus for the Spring term is fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio. Algebra will also be introduced for the first time and children always enjoy the problem-solving nature of the algebraic tasks. Children will continue working through their Going For Gold times table challenges and we hope to see most children achieving Gold this term. The daily practice of times

tables will continue at the beginning of each lesson and children have their logins for Times Tables Rockstars for extra practise at home. If your child is having issues logging in, please let us know. More information can be found by looking at our calculation policy on the school website.

Science

In our biology unit Animals Including Humans, the children will learn about the human circulatory system and healthy living. The first lessons will cover the function of blood, the heart and blood vessels. This will include making a model of blood and an investigation into the effect exercise has on the heart rate. The children will also learn about the work of the famous scientist William Harvey and his discovery of the circulation of blood. In the second half of the unit, the children will research the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function and they will produce an informative leaflet, a selection of which will be made available in the office for visitors to the school.

History/Geography

In History, we will be looking back at the process of crime and punishment from 1066 to now and how this changed across the centuries. We will explain how the police system began, how courts were set up and how punishments/sentences were decided. This will culminate in a debate on 'When was the best time to be a criminal?' This will provide another opportunity for children to practice their oracy skills and use their Rainbow of Talk words.

Design Technology & Art

The children will have a block of both six lessons in DT and Art this term. The DT focus is on building strong structures and the importance of diagonals and triangulation. We will look at the construction and purpose of different buildings, and they will design their own mini shelter for one of the characters in our class novel. They will use saws and will be practising mitre and butt joints to create a strong frame. The art unit examines the unique multi-media style of Kurt Schwitters, which the children will use as inspiration for a group collage piece. In addition, they will learn several new weaving techniques and produce their own weave based on a fantastical theme.

Music

The children will have a weekly music lesson in the first half term, either with their class teacher or Mrs Brown. Our music unit this term will be linked to music technology and the children will be composing a piece using GarageBand software.


PE

The children will have two PE lessons per week. These lessons will either be taught by our PE coaches or by the class teacher. In the first half of the Spring term, the focus will be on hockey and gym. Children will need shin pads and gum shields. In the second half, it will be tag rugby and dance.

PSHE

In these weekly lessons, the children will learn about Families and Friendships and how to develop healthy relationships and the importance of communication. We will also regularly refer to the 'Zones of regulation' as a way of helping children explain how they are feeling.

The ZONES of Regulation®

			
BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

French

The children will have a weekly French lesson taught by their class teacher or Mrs Kimber. They will learn new language linked to activities that they might do at the weekend and also a unit on habitats and how animals adapt.

Religious Education

In the first half of the term, children will look through the philosophy lens to compare humanist and Christian beliefs and examine the ideology of happiness. In the latter half, they will explore how to think as a theologian, look at the creation theory and the cosmology theory (Big Bang), and discuss if these are conflicting or complementary.

Computing

Computing will focus on the children designing and creating their own web page and using tabs to sort the information on a topic of their choice.

Supporting your child's learning

We believe it is important to work as a team in Year 6 and develop a strong home/school relationship to support your child's learning. Below are some areas we look for your support.

- Read with and to your child regularly (yes, even at Year 6) – they also need to listen to good quality books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to advanced vocabulary and to enable them to hear the correct prosody and intonation. Please sign their reading record or encourage them to fill it in.
- Encourage your child to engage with the activities, and work towards, their Reading Olympic challenges in their spare time (details can be found in the back of their reading record).
- Children must practise at least 10 spelling games on Spelling Shed a week.
- Practise times tables up to x12 using TT rockstars.
- Provide children with a calm place to complete maths homework and develop a routine.
- Ensure children have some switch-off time without digital devices to enable them to take a break from the busy world around them and just be children!