



Year 6 Curriculum Update Summer 2024



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Theme

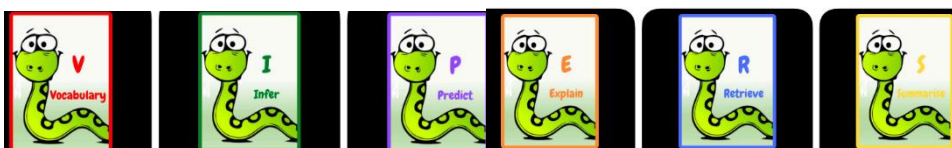
Our theme this Summer is 'Our Changing Planet'. Of course for Year 6, this term is all about change for them too. The children will have an opportunity to make a real difference in this world by writing a persuasive letter which could influence change and reduce the human damage currently being inflicted upon our fragile planet. We will also explore how variation in living things occurs and learn about evolution by natural selection. This term, the children will complete their SATS tests and we watch with interest as their confidence grows, the closer we get to the tests. They are more than ready to show what they can do by the time the week arrives. We make it a fun week with a breakfast club and sporting/art/cookery activities in the afternoon. The children will often say it is their favourite week of the year. The residential will take place later on in the term and we can't wait to see the children try things out of their comfort zone and then feel proud of their success. Our iconic production will once again open its curtains to parents in July, and we hope to see as many of you as possible.

English

In English lessons, the class novels will be 'Can You see Me?' by Libby Scott - a story about neuro-divergence and transition to secondary school; and 'No Ballet Shoes' in Syria by Catherine Bruton – a story of a Syrian refugee and starting afresh. We believe the children are now mature enough to deal with these issues and for it to broaden their outlook on life. The writing units will include a spooky story, a persuasive letter and pieces of writing linked to the class novels. Now most of the writing curriculum has been covered, the children will be using these writing opportunities to show off all their skills to date. Spellings following a particular spelling pattern will still be given out as usual each week on a Monday for learning by the weekend with the expectation that they will practise 10 games of spellings a week. If this is a problem, please let us know and paper copies can be sent home. It continues to be important for children to use joined handwriting in all their subjects and we would ask that they return to school with a fresh supply of two or three black or blue writing pens – fine-liners are always a good option. Getting into good habits with stationery is great 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

We will continue with whole class guided reading but bringing in more opportunities for individual reading and building their resilience with longer texts. Children will, of course, continue to be supported with individual needs. We will be focussing on those more advanced comprehension skills, such as explaining an author's choice of language and how to explain an impression gained from clues in the text. The focus will be on making a point and using evidence to support it. It has been fantastic to see so many children getting their Bronze, Silver and Gold Olympic reading awards and we would encourage them to continue striving for that coveted Reading Ambassador hoodie.



Our question VIPERS

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. All groups will follow the same Year 6 maths curriculum. The focus for the Summer term is shape (angles) and direction (coordinates and reflections). There will also be many opportunities for revision and consolidation of all the new topics covered this year and throughout KS2. Children will continue working through their Going for Gold times table challenges and we hope to see most children achieving Gold this term. More information can be found by looking at our calculation policy on the school website.

Science

In our biology unit, Evolution and Inheritance, the children will be learning how variation in living things occurs and exploring how adaptations help organisms to survive. This will include an experiment to investigate how well fat insulates water, which will involve setting up a valid test, taking accurate measurements and recording data in tables and line graphs. They will also learn about the work of Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace, exploring how living things have changed over time through the process of natural selection and examining the evidence for evolution, including how fossils provide information about organisms that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

History/Geography

In Geography, we will move on to the relevant and important topic of trade and international relations. This fits in with our global theme and also begins to prepare them for their enterprise week later on in the term. Children always have a lot of questions during this unit and you may find them coming home interested in the idea of starting a business.

Design Technology & Art

Art is very exciting this term with a weaving unit and also a portrait unit looking at the famous artists Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso. The children will be able to personalise the weaving to show feelings and emotions and then draw a self-portrait inspired by the artists in the latter unit. Within DT, children will be examining different breads and designing their own one to make for our trip to Bridge End Gardens after SATS.

PE

The children will have two PE lessons per week. These lessons will either be taught by our PE coach, Mr Andrews, or by the class teacher. In the Summer term, the focus will be on athletics and cricket with orienteering towards the end of the year. Our wonderful Sports Days will enable them to show you their skills.

PSHE

In these weekly lessons, the children will learn about managing safety and risk; and after the half term, they will look at healthy lifestyles. We will also have the inspiring and hard hitting talk from the Two Johns on online safety as preparation for transition to secondary school. In addition, there will be the Crucial Crew day later in the term, which helps children learn how to stay safe in the challenging situations they will come across as they get older. This is a day that usually triggers plenty of questions and discussions at home. The children will also complete the SRE unit with their class teacher this term.

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 how to describe where they live and the shops and businesses they might find in a town. By using conjunctions, they will be able to expand their French sentences and write short paragraphs. In the second part of the term, the children will practice how to order in a café and experience a French café.

Religious Education

In the second half of the term, the children will have a weekly RE lesson with their class teacher or Miss Cattley/Mrs Vincent. They will look through the human and social science lens to explore how beliefs shape identity for Muslims.

Computing

Computing will introduce the children to spreadsheets and how they enable you to process data much more efficiently. As we all know, spreadsheets are used frequently in secondary school so this unit is useful preparation. The children will use science or geography data within their spreadsheet.

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.

- We encourage you to continue to ensure children are reading out loud or independently at least four times a week and recording this in their reading record.
- 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!
- Most important this term is to watch children closely for signs of anxiety about all the upcoming changes. Please keep us updated of any wobbles and we can work together to reassure your child that they are ready for the next stage of their education.