

Curriculum Letter for Year 6 - Spring Term 1 2025

General Information

Happy New Year! This half term is a busy term for learning and consolidating knowledge and some children will be involved in Maths or Reading boosters after school.

Curriculum

Maths: This term we begin with our unit on to *percentages*, exploring equivalences and calculating the percentage of an amount. We will then move on to looking at measures - area of parallelograms and triangles and volume of cuboids. Additionally, we will continue to practice our fluency of the four operations regularly across the half term.

English: This half term the children will be looking at *'The Arrival'* by Shaun Tan. The children will be exploring the issue of immigration and the reasons why people must flee countries and seek asylum. They will look at: characters, emotions, different points of view and the challenges faced by some of the characters. The children will write a diary of the little girl as well as short scripts for scenes and narrative passages to describe what is happening at certain points in the book. Following this we will be studying *'The Last Bear'* by Hannah Gold in which children use the text to explore a range of genres and styles of writing. One of the key elements of this text is the way it weaves a gripping tale with important messages relating to the environment and climate change. Children will write a newspaper report about a key event in the story, taking the opportunity to highlight important environmental messages to the reader.

Science: We are studying **Healthy Bodies**. The children will learn the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. They will also look at the impact of exercise, lifestyle, diet, drugs and alcohol on the way the human body functions.

Geography: We are studying the unit *Protecting the Environment*. In this unit, the children will consider if we, as humans are damaging our world and how we can protect it. They will look at different types of renewable energy and the advantages and disadvantages of each type. They will also use data and graphs to find which types of energy the UK uses and how this has changed over the last 50 years. They will learn about how we use our oceans and seas and why it is important to protect them.

DT: This term the children will make a stuffed toy. They will create their own stuffed toy design and then use a template to mark and cut out their design from material. They will then use blanket stitch to assemble their product, adding any decoration they wish to add.

Music: This half term we will be working on the unit *'Music and Me'*. This focuses on inspirational women in the music industry, such as *Diana Ross, Carole King, Beyonce and Aretha Franklin*. In this unit, the children will learn about and understand some of the ways that inspirational women in the music industry express their own identity in the music they create and perform. Children will then create their own music, inspired by their own identity and the four featured artists.

RE: Our unit is Buddhism: What does it mean to be a Buddhist? We will look at the key beliefs and practices of Buddhism as well as how Buddhists might view the purpose and meaning of life and truth. We will learn about the lives of practicing Buddhists and the role the noble eight-fold path plays in helping them live their life well.

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PSHE: We will be completing our *Citizenship* unit before beginning the next. The second unit for the half term is *Health and Well Being* where we will discuss the importance of a healthy diet and physical activity as well as the importance of rest and relaxation. We will look at what resilience is and why it is important. We will discuss some useful resilience strategies and when we could use them. Circle time sessions will also form a part of this unit.

French: This half term, we begin by completing our Weather unit before moving on to *Le Jeux Olympiques* (The Olympics). The children will learn to discuss the basic history of the Olympics, learn the nouns for the sports and describe their likes /dislikes.

Class Reads: The Arrival by Shaun Tan, The Last Bear by Hannah Gold

PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for **Thursdays**. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have indoor PE on **Mondays**. Indoor PE kits will stay in school.

Reading and Spellings

Our expectation is that **daily** reading happens at home. The reading record book is for the children to record their daily reading. Children must also have a reading book in class every day, as this is part of the daily guided and independent reading session.

Homework

Homework will be set every Friday on *Microsoft Teams* and is due in the following Wednesday. Children may also be set homework on MyMaths – this will be indicated on the work set on *Teams*.

Key Dates

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| Year 6 Assessment Week | w/c Monday 2 nd February |
| Children's Mental Health Week | w/c Monday 9 th February |
| Safer Internet Day | Tuesday 10 th February |
| Half Term | Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February |
| Start of Spring 2 Term | Monday 23 rd February |