

Curriculum Letter for Year 6 – Autumn Term 1 2026

General Information

Welcome to Year 6. The children have had a positive start to the year. As the new leaders in the school, the Year 6 pupils set an example by always wearing smart and correct uniform. House Points are awarded to Year 6 pupils for effort, achievements and the contributions they make to our school community.

House Captains and Vice Captains were chosen last week, a huge congratulations to those who have been elected and those who were brave enough to deliver a speech to be considered!

This term, we will be meeting our new class buddies in Year 2 and working with them throughout the year. We look forward to many of our Year 6 leading parent tours, supporting younger children with their reading and demonstrating responsibility and leadership outside of the classroom. Finally, we look forward to our school journey in three weeks!

Curriculum

Maths: This half term we will build on the pupils' knowledge of place value and the four operations and focus on becoming fluent in number. The language and vocabulary associated with these areas, will also be taught and modelled. Children will continue building reasoning skills to support their answers. They will also use their knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four operations.

English: Our first unit this term is based on the book *'The Promise'* by Nicola Davis. Through the sequence of learning, children will explore the language of the text in order to create a sequel using a synonym of the word 'promise'. They will be encouraged to draw upon the figurative language in the book to embed within their own narratives about nature. Following this we will be reading Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*. The children will practise using the passive voice to create a formal tone. They will go on to develop their grasp of legal vocabulary, contrasting conjunctions, formal sentence openers and the subjunctive tone. This will culminate in children having a debate, in role as the prince's royal advisor, about who is mostly to blame for these tragic deaths. Children will use this debate to plan and write a balanced argument.

Science: Our first unit is all about *'Living things: Classifying big and small'*. The children will learn about the 5 kingdoms of living things. They will classify living things by exploring how vertebrates, invertebrates, plants and micro-organisms are grouped according to shared characteristics.

History: For this exciting unit *'What can the census tell us about local areas?'*, the children will be examining how census records can help historians understand the past by making inferences about people's lives in different time periods.

DT: This term our unit is *Structures* and involves the pupils designing and making a model playground. We will explore photos of playgrounds and visit Aldersbrook Park, to create designs for the task. The pupils will be using a variety of materials including wood, card, pipe cleaners and lolly sticks to create model apparatus. They have the challenge to include a variety of structures in their finished product.

Music: In the first half term, the musical knowledge, vocabulary and skills in the unit is focused around one song: *'Happy'*, a pop song by Pharrell Williams. We will learn the song and play instruments to record a final version of this song.

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RE: Our first RE topic is *What might the journey of life and death look like from a Christian perspective?* In this unit we look at different Christian sacraments including baptism, confirmation and marriage and consider how they are significant to a believer's life. The children will have an opportunity to discuss at what age they think someone is old enough to take a personal responsibility for their own faith.

PSHE: Our first unit is *My healthy self: How do my choices today shape my future health?* In this unit the children will be developing their knowledge of how making informed choices now can support future wellbeing by exploring the effects of mindset, behaviour, dental hygiene and care for others and self. Circle time sessions will also take place this term.

French: Our first unit is '*à l'école*' (*at school*). In this unit children will learn to discuss the subjects they like/dislike at school and why they like/dislike them.

Class Read: Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver

PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for Thursdays with Coach Kimani. All children must wear their PE kits to school. Indoor PE is on Mondays. Indoor PE kits 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. This should be signed at least once a week by an adult. Children must also have a reading book in class every day, as this is part of the daily guided and independent reading session.

Spelling lists for Y5 and 6 will be sent home and children will be required to learn these throughout the year. Spellings will be used in their writing and tested when necessary.

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 or Purple Mash – this will be indicated on the work set on *Teams*.

Key Dates and events

PTA Bake Sale	Friday 18 th September
PTA Smarties Challenge starts	Monday 21 st September
Year 6 Residential Trip to Grittleton House	Tuesday 29 th September - Friday 2 nd October
PTA School Discos	Friday 16 th October
INSET Days	Wednesday 21 st - Friday 23 rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October