Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 1 2025

Dear Parent and Carers,

Welcome back! Hope you had a lovely break. We have a busy and exciting year ahead. This half term, we will explore a range of texts in English; we will develop our fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills in maths, and in science, we will learn about electricity.
Our theme for Autumn 1 is '**Who am I and Who am I becoming?**' Our foundation subjects will cover areas related to this theme. Please see more information below.

As readers and writers…

In English lessons, we will be looking at the text '*There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*' by Louis Sachar. This text will be used as a stimulus for our work this half-term.
We will explore the narrative, plot, settings, and characters within the texts and will use this to develop our narrative writing.

We will recap word classes and look at different types of sentences including main and subordinate clauses. We will also look at expanded noun phrases and verb tenses.

The teaching of reading continues with daily work focusing on VIPERS skills (vocabulary, inference, predictions, explanation, retrieval and summary) and a mixed comprehension to apply these skills once a week.

As mathematicians…

Place value

We will secure our place value understanding of numbers up to 10,000,000. We will learn to read and write numbers up to 10,000,000 and will compare and order integers. We will plot numbers on a number line, including negative numbers.

Addition and subtraction

We will learn to add and subtract numbers up to 5 digits using formal written methods. We will be able to estimate answers by using our understanding of rounding and use this to help us to check our answers when problem solving.

Multiplication and Division

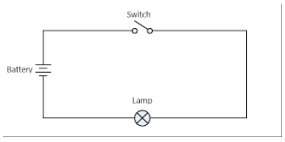
We will find common factors, multiples, prime, square and cube numbers. We will multiply a 4 -digit number by a 2-digit number and divide using long and short division. This learning will continue in Autumn 2.

As theologians…

We will be looking at creation and analysing and evaluating different ideas of how the universe came into being, including the Big Bang Theory and Biblical accounts of creation. We will be exploring how Christians interpret Genesis 1 and deciding if this conflicts or complements scientific understanding.

As scientists…

We will be investigating electricity, both manufactured and natural. We will recap how circuits work then investigate how changing different components impacts the circuit including the brightness of bulb or the speed of a motor. We will make hypotheses and then test them. We will also use circuit symbols to scientifically represent the circuits we construct.



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As linguists…

We will continue learning Mandarin. We will recap our understanding of China and Mandarin including the formation of words. We will learn vocabulary to discuss the weather and use it to compare the weather in different seasons and different cities in China. We will also learn vocabulary associated with school including school equipment, lessons and locations around the school.

As artists and designers…

We will use pastels to replicate the textures, lines and patterns found in animal eyes. We will look at how movement is depicted in art and learn how to apply it to our own drawings. We will create self-portraits in the style Frida Kahlo. We will also look at the importance of structures in earthquake prone areas of the world and construct and test structures.

As geographers…

We will see how continents can be split up into regions on a smaller scale and know about some of the topographical features of the world. We will locate and identify the weather and flora and fauna in different biomes. We will look at energy sources in the UK and beyond, beginning to think about renewable and non-renewable energy.

As good citizens…

We will continue to develop our understanding of wellbeing and know how to challenge negative thoughts and feelings. We will understand how the internet can positively and negatively affect mental health. We will learn strategies and behaviours that support mental health to support ourselves and others.

As historians…

We will explore the history of the world by focusing on the Early Islamic Civilisation. We will use a range of sources to identify where this time period fits chronological with other periods we have studied and understand how it has impacted the world.

As musicians…

We will develop an understanding and appreciation for differing styles and reflect on music's ability to carry or convey a message of hope when difficulty is present. We will learn to confidently perform songs and parts both through singing and playing the glockenspiel. We will focus on the song Happy by Pharrell Williams.

As computer scientists…

We will explore the importance of digital literacy and how it is used in the wider world. We will design, create and edit presentations, using multimedia content, for a purpose.

As athletes…

We will understand the importance of developing a healthy lifestyle, articulating how this can be achieved by giving specific examples, and be able to confidently explain the impact physical fitness has on ourselves mentally and physically. We will also develop our basketball skills including ball control.

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Notices and reminders

- Please ensure that your child is reading daily and recording this in their reading record.
- Homework will be set every Friday and needs to be handed in by the following Wednesday at the latest. This can be completed on Showbie or in the homework book.
- Please ensure that your child is learning the weekly spellings. These can be found on Showbie, in the homework book and on Spelling shed. The test will be on Fridays.
- There will be a maths fact-file to learn for a test each week. This will be a set of key facts, on one topic, that need to be learnt off by heart. This can be found on Showbie in the homework section. The test will be on Fridays.
- Edshed will have a grammar, maths and spelling activity each week.
- There will be an optional task on Sumdog each week.
- There will be optional 10-minute quick practise questions for maths, grammar and reading on Showbie (in the homework section) each week to help prepare for SATs.
- PE is on Thursdays and Fridays. The children must ensure that they wear their PE kits to school on these days.
- Soft starts will be Monday to Thursday from 8:40.
- Please remember that Young Voices is on Tuesday 20th January and you need to have signed up your child by Friday 26th September as we have to confirm numbers.
- We will be going to the British Museum, as part of our history learning, on Wednesday October 8th.
- We will be going to Croydon Fire Station for the Junior Citizenship Workshop on Thursday October 16th.
- We will be participating in a heart dissection workshop (£5), as part of our science learning, on Tuesday 4th November.
- We will be going to the London Docklands Museum, as part of our history learning, on Wednesday November 12th.
- We will be going to Kew Gardens (£8), as part of our geography learning, on Friday November 21st.
- Please let us know if you are able to accompany us on any of the trips.

Attendance:
It is important that your child's attendance remains above 97% so that they do not fall behind.

Thank you so much for your support!

Year 6 Team
Class Teachers: Hawk - Mrs Lula
Eagle - Miss Fisher (Mrs Smith – on Tuesdays)
TAs: Ms Davis and Mr Kabeya
UKS2 Phase Leader: Mrs Smith