Year 6 Newsletter
Spring 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Year 6 Team wishes you a happy new year. Our learning focus this half term is '**Heritage and Culture**'. Below we have outlined what we will be covering as part of this topic, in addition to our English and Maths work. We hope that you will get involved in your children's research and contribute to their learning by discussing and supporting their schoolwork at home.

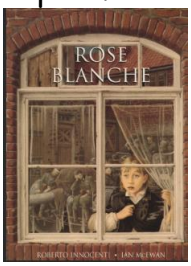
Attendance

Eagle: 94.9% Hawk: 93.7%

Target: 97.5%

As readers and writers…

Our focus text for this half term will be 'Rose Blanche' by Christophe Gallaz. We will be using the text to delve into the key themes. We will explore writing a narrative, a diary and a newspaper report.



We will increase our focus on grammar and punctuation – starting with word classes. Spellings will be coming home weekly and will be tested in class.

The teaching of reading continues with daily work focusing on VIPERS skills (vocabulary, inference, predictions, explanation, retrieval and summary) which we will break down to help us develop skills and strategies to identify and answer different types of questions.

As mathematicians we will…

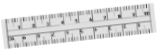
We will be learning the following:

Decimals:

- Place value to 3 decimal places
- Rounding decimals
- Adding and subtracting decimals
- Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000
- Multiply and divide decimals by integers

Ratio:

- Using the language of ratio
- Using the ratio symbol
- Ratio and fractions
- Scale drawings
- Using scale factors
- Similar shapes
- Solving ratio and proportion problems
- Scaling recipes



Algebra:

- One and two step function machines
- Forming expressions
- Substitution
- Formulae
- Forming equations
- Solving 1 and 2 step equations
- Finding pairs of values
- Solving problems with two unknowns
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As theologians…

We will be looking at the big question: What matters most to Humanists and Christians? We will think about how worldwide views shape the way we live; what helps people decide what is right and wrong; and what values are considered important for a good life. We will also think about how values and beliefs help guide people's lives.

As artists…

We will be focusing on sculpture. We will be looking at Chihuly and his glass sculptures. We will be manipulating plastic using heat to create our own sculptures. We will also be manipulating card, and applying a range of media to create a texture, to sculpt Anderson shelters.

As good citizens…

We will be thinking about Heritage and Values. We will be discussing issues around drug use and peer pressure. We will also look at safeguarding ourselves in different situations.

As historians…

We will be learning about World War Two. We will start by looking at the causes of the war. We will look at the Blitz, evacuation and rationing in Britain and how this impacted children. We will also learn about the Holocaust and link this to our text.

As linguists…

We will be learning how to talk about foods, other countries, time and directions. We will use these skills to make a menu plan and a travel plan.

As scientists…

We will be learning about evolution and inheritance. Looking at both humans and animals, we will look at adaption and using fossils as evidence to show evolution. We will learn about Charles Darwin's theory 'Survival of the Fittest'.

As designers…

We will be researching and designing our own ration cakes based on the ingredients that would have been available during World War 2.

As athletes…

We will be focusing on all-over body fitness and trying to improve our fitness from Autumn 1. We will also be developing our gymnastic skills including balance and travelling (including rolls). We will then work in unison to create sequences to perform to each other.

As geographers…

We will be developing our map skills. We will use atlases to interpret maps focusing on the topography of China. We will use 6 figure grid references and we will have a go at creating our own maps.

As musicians…

We will be focusing on preparing for Young Voices and practising the songs and actions ready to dazzle everyone at the O2. We will also be looking at the Jazz unit from Autumn 2 and learning about improvisation.

As computer scientists…

We will be learning about using events to trigger actions and programming our own virtual pet. We will also be analysing the social and economic impacts of AI.

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. Please encourage them to play on spelling shed for 10 minutes every day to help improve their spelling.

- 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.
- Please ensure your child charges their iPad each evening so it is ready to use at school the next day.
- PE is on **Thursdays and Fridays**. The children must ensure that they **wear their PE kit into school** on these days – white t-shirt, navy or black leggings/joggers/shorts, trainers and a navy or black sweatshirt/jumper or their school jumper.
- Soft starts will be Monday to Thursday from 8:40.
- Please support the tuck shop on Fridays – we are raising money for Year 6 activities including the prom.
- Please remember that Young Voices is on Tuesday 20th January.
- We are going to the London Museum Docklands, as part of our history learning, on Tuesday 27th January – children need to be at school at 8:25am and we aim to be back before the end of the school day.
- Please remember to make any outstanding payments on MCAS as without them we cannot book future trips or experiences.
- We are hoping to book an additional hands on workshop in school about World War Two.
- Please remember to make payments for PGL if your child is attending and complete the medical form which was sent as link/QR code in a letter via MCAS on the 14th of November. This needs to be completed by the 13th February.
- If you have any further questions, we will be in the playground each afternoon at 3.25pm and are more than happy to talk.

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