

Year 6 Newsletter – Spring Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas holiday. It is lovely to see all of your children ready to continue their final year of primary school. We have a busy term ahead of us, as we begin to prepare for the SATs in May.

R.E

Our topics this term are:

- **Sources**
- **Unity**
- **Death and New Life**



In Sources, we learn about the experience of the community being an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. The children study a variety of books and the purpose for which they were written. They learn how the Bible is the story of God's love, told by the people of God. In Unity, the children learn and understand what nourishes and what spoils friendship and unity. The children learn how the Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion every day.

As we complete our Unity topic, the children will continue to learn and understand what 'nourishes' and what 'spoils' friendship and unity. The children learn how the Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion every day.

In Death and New Life, we will learn about the Sacrament of the Sick. The children will learn about Ash Wednesday and the season when Christians practice both giving and giving up, to identify with the complete self-offering of Jesus, we will study the Gospels and identify how loving and caring for others is to show love for Jesus.

ENGLISH

We must begin by completing the novel *Shadow Forest*, by Matt Haig.

Our next class novel will be *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* by Louis Sachar.



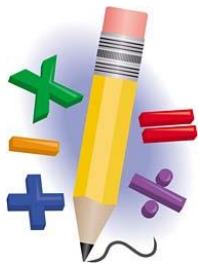
Bradley Chalkers is the school's bully with a behaviour problem. His teacher sits him at the back of the class and no one else is friends with him until the new boy, Jeff Fishkin, arrives. Both Jeff and Bradley are sent to the school's counsellor, Carla Davis, to help Jeff settle into the school and encourage Bradley to open up to someone.

In reading, we will be ensuring that we are able to answer a range of comprehension questions as we read a range of short extracts (fiction, non-fiction and poetry). We will particularly focus on questions which ask to show our understanding of the meanings of words, and we will also be thinking about our impressions of characters, using evidence from the text to support and justify our opinions.

In writing, we shall be continuing to write for a range of purposes and audiences.

We will begin by writing an explanation text linked to our Science work on evolution and inheritance. Following this, we shall produce some writing inspired by our class novel, *Shadow Forest*. This will be in the form of diary entries and descriptions. We will then move onto a unit of work inspired by the play *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. Towards the end of the term, we will work on writing a balanced argument.

MATHS



We will continue to develop our fluency and problem solving with the four operations. We will also be learning about units of measurement and how to convert them. The children will develop their understanding of ratio and algebra.

During the second half-term, we will be learning about ratio, scale and proportion. We will explore the links between fractions, decimals and percentages.

SCIENCE

Evolution and Inheritance

Studying patterns in humans and other species, children learn about characteristics that are inherited from parents and those that are environmental. Through the eyes of Darwin and Wallace, pupils understand how observations lead to theories and explore natural selection. By modelling the variation and natural selection of Darwin's finches, they begin to explain how species evolve over time and the role of fossil evidence that supports this theory.

Circuits, Batteries and Switches

Using their prior knowledge of electrical circuits, children learn to draw conventional circuit diagrams and use models to explain current, resistance and voltage. They compare different batteries and consider the effect on bulb brightness. Pupils apply their knowledge of switches and electrical circuits to design and produce their own practical devices.

MUSIC



Film Music

Children explore and identify the characteristics of film music. They create a composition and graphic score to perform alongside a film.

Theme and Variations (Theme: Pop Art)

Children explore the musical concept of theme and variations and discover how rhythms can 'translate' onto different instruments.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY - Structures: Playgrounds

Designing and creating a model of a new playground featuring five apparatus, made from three different structures. Creating a footprint as the base, pupils visualise objects in plan view and get creative with their use of natural features.

ART - Drawing: Make My Voice Heard

The children explore expressive drawing techniques, to consider how symbolism in art can convey meaning. They evaluate the context and intention of street art. They apply an understanding of impact and effect to create their own powerful image.



GEOGRAPHY - Where does our energy come from?

Learning about renewable and non-renewable energy sources, where they come from and their impact on society, the economy and the environment.

HISTORY - Black and British: How much have things changed?

In this unit, the children will learn about key concepts of empire, migration, exploration, exploitation, slavery trade and discrimination. Pupils use sources to learn how the first black people in Britain were Roman soldiers. They use evidence to learn about the role of black people in Tudor society. They begin to study the nature of the transatlantic slave trade, and how Britain was one of the world's largest slave-trading nations. The children learn how black activists helped bring about the end of the slave trade in 1807. Children study how discriminatory attitudes restricted the roles black people could play in the world wars, and examine the contrast in attitudes from World War 1 to World War 2. The

children build upon their knowledge of Windrush, the experiences of the first post-war black immigrants, and how this has changed over the last 60 years in Britain.

MFL – Spanish

Household Tasks in Spanish

Designing their own robot to complete jobs around the house, children describe its features and advertise the robot by using sentence builders and adapting statements to make them more persuasive. They practise giving their opinions about household tasks and justifying their opinions.

Shopping in Spain

Visiting a Spanish market, children describe the name and location of the different market stalls. They play a fun board game to practise their transactional language and apply their knowledge of larger numbers and handling money.

COMPUTING

Data Handling- Big Data 1

Understanding about the use of big data including barcodes, QR codes, infrared, and RFID technologies. Children will create and scan their own QR codes, manipulate real-time data in spreadsheets, and present their findings. They also analyse transport data to understand its usefulness to commuters.

Online Safety

The children learn to describe online issues, which give us negative feelings and know how to get help. They explore the impact and consequences of sharing online and learn how to create a positive online reputation. The children describe how to capture bullying content as evidence and develop their awareness of strategies that help to protect people online.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Mondays and Fridays

This first half-term, the children need to come to school in their Active Wear every Monday and Friday. Without exception, no jewellery can be worn during PE lessons.

On Mondays, we will be participating in sessions with Rees Sports and on Fridays, we will be dancing with Funky Lou.

PSHCE & RHSE

Life to the Full

Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, this learning helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.

Keep Safe!

The children learn that responsible and respectful behaviour is necessary when interacting with others online and face-to-face, and they understand and describe the ease with which something posted online can spread. They identify strategies for keeping personal information safe online and explore the risks of sharing photos and films of themselves with other people directly or online.

The children will discover how drugs can be categorised into different groups depending on their medical and legal context, and explain why there are laws relating to drugs in this country. They describe some of the effects and risks of drinking alcohol.



HOMEWORK



Homework will be issued on Fridays and is to be returned by the following Wednesday.

Spellings will be given out and tested weekly on Fridays.

Reading should take place at home 5 times a week in order to ensure good progress continues throughout the year. This should be recorded in reading diaries.

EXPERIENCES AND VISITS

Wednesday 5th February	Year 6 Parent Consultation Day
Tuesday 25th February	Year 6 Booster Club (start date)

Thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Heaton and Mrs May