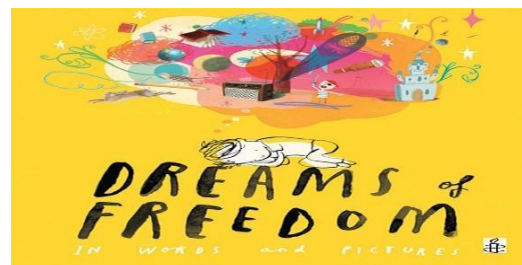
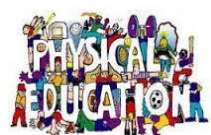


Year 6 newsletter Autumn 2025

Welcome back to a new school year - and it is set to be a very busy and exciting one for our new year 6s. Take a look at our curriculum plan to see what is in store this term!



| Connector: Freedom | |
|----------------------|--|
| English | Narrative/Biographies linked to our History work, information texts |
| Mathematics | Recap on prior skills with a focus on increased fluency with key facts including place value, times tables and related division facts. |
| Science | Animals including Humans - Exercise, Health and the Circulatory System |
| Computing & E-Safety | Searching, Managing Online Information |
| History | Migration: What links did Lancashire have to the slave trade? |
| RE | Hindu Dharma: symbolism and stories Christianity: denominational differences and rites of passage |
| PSHE | Family and Relationships Health and Wellbeing |
| PE / Games | Athletics, Gymnastics, Invasion games |
| Art | Artist study- Jean-Michel Basquiat Outcome- mixed media |
| DT | Designer study- Althea McNish Outcome-Textiles and fashion (drawstring bag) |
| Music | Compose and sing a syncopated melody, explore the influences of artists |



PE day

Our PE days are Wednesday and Friday.

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit on this day.



Year 6 Standard

In Year 6, children have the opportunity to earn a badge which indicates that they are showing 'Year 6 Standard'. We have talked to the children about what this means and how they, as the oldest children in school, can set a good example to others. Amongst other things, we have discussed: following school rules without needing prompting, showing good manners and respect to those around them, focussing on work and completing it to the best of their ability, following instructions the first time they are asked, playing co-operatively at breaktimes.

Some children are demonstrating these skills already and will be awarded their Year 6 Standard accordingly. Other children may need a little more time to demonstrate them before they receive their badge.

Throughout the year, the Year 6 Standard badge can be lost (e.g. as part of a sanction for not following school rules) but then earned again when the children are able to demonstrate the correct behaviours.



Homework

In year 6, we use a teaching and learning tool called Learn by Questions - or LbQ for short. LbQ contains question sets for maths and English. Pupils answer questions on a device, whether that be at home or in the classroom, and the teacher can see how they are doing and set appropriate follow up tasks in subsequent lessons.

As children progress through activities, LbQ tailors questions at a pace suited to them. No one gets left behind and everyone works at the speed and challenge that's right for them.

Once the children have had time to become familiar with LbQ at school, we will send instructions for how they can access it at home. Maths and Grammar homework will then be set through LbQ.

If your child is unable to access LbQ at home, as they do not have access to a device or to the internet, they will be invited to a homework club. Please speak to your child's classteacher if this is the case.



Children will also be set a spelling list each Friday to be learnt throughout the week for the **test the following Friday**. These spelling lists will be uploaded onto SpellingShed where the children can play games and complete challenges to aid them with practising the words set that week. It is important that your child understands the meaning of the words on their spelling list and that they are able to **use them correctly within a sentence**.

Reading

Information regarding Boom Reader has now been sent home. We have a very strong culture for reading at Balshaw Lane and we are confident that this platform will help keep children engaged and engrossed with their books!

It is still important for children in Year 6 to read with an adult. Please listen to your child read regularly and ask them questions about what they have read. Discussing reading is vital for developing children's comprehension and will support them in feeling confident when they do their reading SATs paper. **Please ensure that you show your child's class teacher that your child is reading with an adult at home by recording the pages read and, if wanted, making relevant comments on Boom Reader.**

Class teachers will check children's online reading records: children who have at least 3 home reads recorded in a week will be entered into the reading raffle for the chance to win a prize that half term.



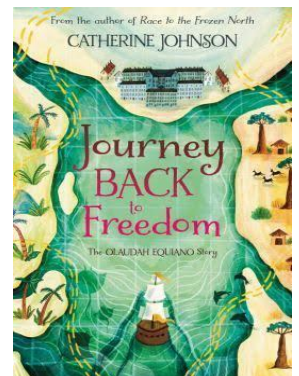
Class Novel

We will be reading 'Journey Back to Freedom: The Olaudah Equiano' story by Catherine Johnson.

As part of our connector, 'Freedom', we will also be reading and using the following books in class:

Born on the Water by Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renee Watson

Freedom 1783 by Catherine Johnson



If you need to get in touch, send a message via Class Dojo or pop for a chat at the end of the school day. For more urgent messages, or to inform school about absence or appointments, please ring the school office.

Mrs Singleton and Ms Carver