



# Year 6 Autumn Newsletter 2025



Welcome back! We are really happy to have you back in school and we are looking forward to the year ahead. We have been working hard to plan lots of interesting lessons and activities for you. Here is an overview of what will be happening this term.

## Year 6 Team:

St. Matthew's  
Miss Gilligan & Mr Alex

St. Margaret's  
Mrs D'Cruz & Mrs Parker

## The School Day

Please bring in a school bag/rucksack which should have your reading book, reading record which should be kept in your reading folder. We also encourage children to bring in a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables etc.) for break times and a water bottle. Remember to also bring your lunch box (if you aren't having school dinners).

## Birthdays

We enjoy celebrating the children's special days with them. Some parents like to send a treat in for classmates. Please remember we cannot give out cake or party bags. A small bag of **nut free** sweets, such as Haribo is ideal. Such treats are given out at home time and children should show their parents before eating them.

## Homework Expectations

Homework is set on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday				
Reading	Spelling	Grammar	Maths	Times Tables
Reading daily for 15-20 minutes using your library book.	<u>Spelling Shed</u> ( <u>Ed Shed</u> )  You will have 10 words to revise - use Spelling Shed as much as you can	<u>CGP Grammar Book</u>  2 pages to be assigned by class teacher weekly.	<u>Maths Shed</u>  The number of assignments set will vary depending on the topic.	<u>Times table Rock Stars</u>  (As much as you can)

## Where to access the homework:

Spelling & Maths homework: Ed Shed - <https://www.edshed.com/> (There is also a Spelling Shed app).

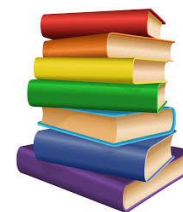
Grammar homework: CGP Grammar book will be sent home weekly.

Pages to be completed will be directed in their homework diaries. (Please only complete the directed pages)

Times Table Rock Stars - <https://trockstars.com/> (There is also an app).

## Reading homework

We expect our pupils to read for 15-20 minutes per day to support their learning at school. Through reading and hearing stories, children are exposed to a wide range of words. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they read, which is vital as they continue to develop their narrative writing. We expect reading journals to be filled out with the book title and pages read before being signed by a parent or carer and brought into school on a daily basis and we'll be monitoring this regularly.



**\*All login details will be stuck in your child's reading record.**



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## Subject Information

**RE:** In R.E., our first topic is Creation and Covenant. In Year 6 we will be looking at the second account of Creation. We will be trying to develop an understanding of what is meant by the 'Fall' and the significance of the sacrament of Baptism as a forgiveness of sin.



**English:** Our first text in Year 6 is 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo and a favourite for many Year 6 children. Children will write poems, letters, newspaper articles and many other forms of writing based on the events in the story. We then move on to study 'The Silver Sword', which is a story that follows the lives of a Polish family seeking refuge during World War II. Please see the short blurb below.

Kensuke's Kingdom	The Silver Sword
When Michael is washed up on an island in the Pacific after falling from his parent's yacht, the Peggy Sue, he struggles to survive on his own. But he soon realises there is someone close by, someone who is watching over him and helping him to stay alive. Following a close-run battle between life and death after being stung by a poisonous jelly fish, the mysterious someone--Kensuke--allows Michael into his world and they become friends, teaching and learning from each other, until the day of separation becomes inevitable. Morpurgo here spins a yarn which gently captures the adventurous elements one would expect from a desert-island tale, but the real strength lies in the poignant and subtle observations of friendship, trust and, ultimately, humanity.	In the chaos of World War II, Ruth, Edek and Bronia are separated from their parents, and left alone to fend for themselves, hiding from the Nazis in the ruins of their city, Warsaw. But when they meet orphan Jan, who treasures a paperknife in the shape of a silver sword that he was given by an escaped prisoner of war, it becomes a powerful symbol of hope. The children realise that the escapee was their father, and the silver sword is a message that he is alive and searching for them. Together with Jan they begin a dangerous journey across Europe to the safety of Switzerland where they hope to reunite with their parents. It is the story of a terrible time made bearable by the strong streak of humanity at its heart and by the unusual acts of kindness the children experience on their travels.

**Science:** In science, we will be looking at Animals (Including humans) with a particular focus on the impact exercise and diet has on the body's ability to function. After half term, the children will then be moving onto 'Evolution and Inheritance'.

**CLC:** Our first CLC topic in Year 6 is 'Where shall we sail to?' During this topic, children will be learning how to read maps, study different countries and cultures and using what they have learnt to prepare our International Day, which will be held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October. After half term, the children will then be discovering what life was like in England during the Blitz.



## PE:

PE Timetable	
St. Margaret's	Every Monday and Wednesday
St. Matthew's	Every Wednesday and Thursday (Thursday swimming kit)

**Please ensure that your child comes into school on their PE days wearing the correct PE kit.**

Information on what our PE kit should consist of can be found on the following link:

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/school-life/school-uniform>

Please ensure that **names are written** clearly on all PE kit and School Uniform.

We encourage children to come to school with a refillable water bottle (no single-use plastic bottles please) to keep hydrated throughout the day.



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## Swimming

St. Matthew's will be taking part in swimming lessons from Thursday **11<sup>th</sup> September** until the end of term, they will be taken by Miss Gilligan. Children are to attend school in their PE kit – they will need to bring a rucksack for their swimming kit and towel. They should come to school in PE kit and bring a coat. Please see the swimming letter for further information.

## Medical and SEND information

We ask that any medication or asthma pumps are in school. Any medical or SEND information needs to be emailed to the school office – Addressed to Mrs Butler.

## Important dates

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 6 Residential Meeting 2:45pm (Parents invited to attend)

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September** – New School Year Mass (Yr 2-6)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** – Parent Coffee Morning (Parents invited to attend)

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 6 International Day (Parents invited to attend)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – 1<sup>st</sup> Flu Immunisations

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents' Evening (Parents invited to attend)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Parents' Evening (Parents invited to attend)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – St. Ursula's Feast Day Mass (Yr2-6)

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** – INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED

**October Half-Term** – w/c 27.10.25 – 02.11.25

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Back to school

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** – Individual and Sibling Photos

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Parent Coffee Morning (Parents invited to attend)

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 6 and Year 2 Advent Penitential Mass (Parents invited to attend)

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November** – Rock Steady Concert (Parents invited to attend)

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – Parent Coffee morning ~ Christmas Crafting 8:45am

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December** – Pantomime in school

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 Christmas Concert 1.45pm at St. Dominic's

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – End of term reports – Early finish at 1.00pm

## Prayer for the start of the Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen

**Thank you for your support and we look forward to working together to help your child be the best that they can be!**