

Year 6

Autumn Term Curriculum Overview

English

This term we will use the novel “Goodnight Mister Tom” to explore narrative themes and shifts in formality; this novel also ties in with our history topic. A classic tale, “A Christmas Carol”, will follow this, where children will learn to create atmosphere through word choices and explore how stories can raise issues through allegory. By carefully considering purpose and audience, we will look at explanation texts and produce meaningful writing that will educate our readers. We will also produce recounts that will both entertain and inform the reader not only of facts and events but also of emotions and thought processes. A unit on poems with imagery will allow the children not only to develop their creative writing but will also afford opportunities for outdoor learning. We will also spend time reading classic poems and identifying the language choices the poets have made and what effect this has on the audience. All of this will be underpinned by a focus on spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting. Reading comprehension will be a regular feature of our timetable too.

R.E.

We will begin the new academic year by exploring the love and care of God for his people through the ideas of family, home and community. The concept of unconditional love will be a common thread throughout this unit of work. Learning about God’s call to individuals and how they respond will afford the children with excellent opportunities to look at the lives of saints and the Sacrament of Ordination. Year 6 will explore the Five Pillars of Islam. They will also learn about the expectations of Advent from a variety of perspectives, including their own.

Mathematics

In maths during the Autumn term, we will be working with numbers of up to nine digits. Using column addition and subtraction we will calculate the answers to whole number and decimal operations. This will lend itself to our work on measures where we will calculate financial and distance differences. We will also be able to convert a range of units of measures and use timetables to answer real-life questions. We will build on our multiplication and division written methods and link this to our learning of fractions and decimals. Our geometry work this term will consist of learning and working with the different parts of a circle, calculating missing angles, describing the properties of a range of quadrilaterals and identifying, describing and building 3D shapes using their nets. All of our mathematics will involve learning and applying efficient mental methods and solving multi-step problems.

R.H.E.

Through religious understanding, we will learn about health, bodies, emotional wellbeing and life cycles.

Geography

In this unit about Africa, children will first find out about the continent as a whole, and the countries that form it. By exploring varying perceptions of Africa in the media, children will be able to analyse sources in a discerning manner. Relief, climate and water will be investigated further and pupils will also look in more detail at some of the contrasting regions of Africa, finding out about the landscape, people and amazing wildlife of each area. Children will also develop their map and atlas skills and practise reading and writing coordinates. They will learn about the ancient and new wonders of the world, specifically those of Africa, and they will research the experiences and lifestyles of those living 'on the edge', their methods of survival and their achievements against the odds.

Science

When we learn about living things and their habitats, we will use taxonomy to assist us in classifying living things, examining their features and discussing why these features are present. We will learn to use a dichotomous key to identify living things and to observe carefully and draw accurately the features of a plant. We will also identify how micro-organisms can be both helpful and harmful. We will then move on to look at animals, including humans. Not only will we learn about the systems within the human body, but we will also revisit how to take care of it.

P.E. and Games

We will develop strategy through invasion games. Dance will allow us to perfect coordination and expression, comparing performances with previous ones in order to improve.

Computing

Online safety and ensuring we have a positive digital footprint are the focus this term in computing.

P.S.H.E.

When learning about health and wellbeing, we will focus on mental and physical wellbeing, staying safe, growing up and hopes and dreams.

History

World War Two will be a focus for us this term and we will use this as inspiration for other curriculum areas. We will learn how to use primary and secondary sources to answer our questions and will look at the chronology of this historical event, the build-up to it, the reasons for it, the effect on life in Britain and the lessons that have been learned. By looking at other key historical events in relation to WW2 and the present day, we will develop an understanding of timescale. Looking at WW2 propaganda will link to our literacy when examining persuasive devices and we will try to gain an insight into the life of both an evacuee and a soldier. Our Class Novel will transport us back in time and give us some idea of the challenges faced by children during this key historical event.

Art and D.T.

This term we will be working from a variety of sources and with a variety of materials. We will mix and match colours to create atmosphere and light effects and will apply some Native American techniques to our work. We will also prepare foods, considering ingredients available in particular regions and time periods and suggesting improvements to our product.