

Year 6

Year 6 Spring Term Curriculum Overview

English

This term we will be expanding our understanding of narrative conventions by studying a new class novel and use the authorial techniques within as inspiration to write emotively, figuratively and convey atmosphere and suspense in our writing. By reading an adventure story linked to the theme of 'survival', we will make links across the curriculum and consider our own role in global issues. We will be examining the features of biographies – life stories- as we begin to prepare for the next stage of our own lives. The subject of our biographies will also inform our work in science and geography. By learning to produce explanatory texts, we will develop our ability to pitch our writing to the intended audience so that the purpose of the piece is fulfilled.

Later on in the term we will read a crime-fiction novel which will help to scaffold our own detective stories as we plant clues for the reader. 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 and this will be supported by our Guided Reading sessions.

R.E.

The Spring term will begin with exploring the Gospel accounts of Jesus' public ministry and teaching. We will then move on to learn more about Jesus' attitudes to sinners and the Christian responsibility to follow His example. Reading Gospel accounts of how the lives of men and women were changed by their encounters with Jesus will help us to learn about the value of sharing and showing respect and care for others. We will also consider the cost of discipleship, look at the Sacraments and learn about the events behind Lent.

R.H.E.

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

Mathematics

In maths during the spring term, we will be learning how to solve multi-step problems, and problems involving fractions, decimals and percentages- choosing and using appropriate calculation strategies at each stage. We will use efficient written and mental methods for all four operations and apply our number sense to be able to break down more complex calculations into manageable chunks. We will make and draw 2D and 3D shapes with increasing accuracy by applying knowledge of their properties. By suggesting hypotheses, we will then investigate and become increasingly more skilled at justifying and reasoning. Expressing one quantity as a percentage of another will be one of the many ways in which mathematics will prove to be relevant to 'real life'. Statistical analysis will allow us to make more sense of the wider world where we will calculate mean as an average and take an in-depth look at the 'story' that pie charts and line graphs can reveal.

We also look forward to a 'Money Management' workshop which will give Year 6 pupils an insight into the economy, the value of money and how to plan financially- life skills that are sure to benefit them both immediately and in their own futures.

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Science

It is important that children have the appropriate understanding of fossils, habitats and human development in order to grasp the concepts and ideas presented to them as part of our topic of Evolution and Adaptation. They will be able to explore how both Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace separately developed their theories of evolution. They will examine the scientific evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution and use this to justify their own thoughts in debate.

P.S.H.E.

'Relationships' is our theme. Pupils will learn how to recognise and manage emotions within a range of relationships, how to respond to risky or negative relationships and ask for help and how to respect equality and diversity in relationships.

History

The Ancient Maya were a fascinating and extremely successful civilisation. We will explore the culture of these people and learn about their diet, clothing, infrastructure, religious beliefs, social hierarchy, writing and numerical systems and what these people left behind. We will discuss the impact of the Ancient Mayan Civilisation on the modern world and will come to conclusions about how we can learn so much about a society that is no longer present- considering sources. We will conclude this unit by learning about the modern Maya and how much (or little) of their ancestors' way of life has been retained.

P.E. and Games

Blackpool Community Trust will lead Year 6 on a health and fitness programme which will include a range of sports/ skills as well as dietary education.

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 develop our understanding of how to use perspective in our work.

Computing

Information Technology forms our computing curriculum for this term. Pupils will design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems.

Geography

Extreme weather will form our geography unit for the term where we will be exploring blizzards, hurricanes and flooding- providing an opportunity to explore states of matter. By looking at extreme weather hazards in the UK, we will consolidate our knowledge of UK geography and will use the work of the MET Office to investigate cases of extreme weather in this country. We will then contrast this with extreme weather in other areas of the world, looking at the effect on/ risk to both human and physical features. With climate change being high on the global agenda, we will engage in debate and discussion as developments in this area appear in the news.