

English

This autumn, Year 6 will explore the Victorian era through the novel *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. This powerful text will support both our reading and writing, as we learn about the harsh realities of life for children during this period, especially those working in cotton mills.

Using the novel and historical context, the children will write persuasive letters arguing against child labour, as well as produce descriptive writing based on Victorian settings. These tasks will help develop their ability to write with purpose, emotion, and detail.

In addition to writing, pupils will take part in regular GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) lessons to strengthen their grammar knowledge and sentence construction. These sessions will focus on key skills to support writing across all subjects. We will develop these skills: word classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs), synonyms and antonyms, using parenthesis, writing subordinate clauses and complex sentences, improving punctuation and spelling.

This term, we will be following a new whole-school approach to spelling using the **Jane Considine Spelling Scheme**. This structured programme helps children understand the patterns and rules of spelling while developing greater confidence and accuracy in their writing. We will focus on key areas such as **irregular and exception words, order of letters, homophones, and relying on phonics**. Children will also practise **using a thesaurus, inspecting a dictionary**, and work as **Grapheme Grafters** to explore spelling patterns in greater depth.

Year 6

2025-2026

Autumn Term

Curriculum Overview



RE

This term, we will continue to follow our RE scheme, RED, focusing on the topics **Creation and Covenant** and **Prophecy and Promise**. Through these units, children will explore key stories and themes from religious texts, learning about the relationships between God and people, and how promises and prophecies shape faith and actions. They will develop a deeper understanding of belief, commitment, and hope within different traditions.

In addition to class lessons, the children will have opportunities to take part in daily worship sessions, supporting their spiritual growth and encouraging reflection, prayer, and respect for different beliefs and values.

Maths

In maths this term, we'll be focusing heavily on developing fluency, reasoning, and problem-solving skills across a range of topics. A key emphasis will be on showing clear, structured working out, as this underpins all areas of mathematical understanding—particularly when tackling multi-step word problems. Children are expected to explain their methods clearly and apply them confidently across different contexts. This approach supports their deeper understanding and prepares them for the style of questions they will encounter in SATs.

We will be learning about the following topics:

- Place Value (numbers up to 10,000,000, comparing, ordering, rounding)
- Negative numbers
- The four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)
- Multiplying and dividing up to 4-digit numbers by 1- and 2-digit numbers
- Problem-solving using all four operations
- Common factors and multiples
- Long division
- Regular arithmetic and SATs practice papers to build confidence

Reading

This term, children will have **daily exposure to reading** through a range of purposeful activities designed to build both skill and enjoyment. We will be following **Christopher Such's approach to reading**, which emphasises developing a love of reading through **fluency practice, extended reading, and close reading sessions**. This balanced approach helps children become confident, thoughtful readers who can both enjoy and analyse what they read.

To support this, we will be studying two rich and engaging texts: *Far From Home* and *Street Child*. These novels will not only develop pupils' reading stamina and comprehension but also deepen their understanding of historical contexts and character development.

PE

This half term, our PE lessons will focus on **Gymnastics** and **Football**. In gymnastics, children will develop their balance, control, and coordination through a range of floor work and apparatus-based activities. They will learn how to create sequences that include jumps, rolls, and balances, building both strength and flexibility.

In football, the focus will be on teamwork, spatial awareness, and key skills such as dribbling, passing, and shooting. Year 6 will also have opportunities to apply these skills in small-sided games, developing their tactical understanding and sportsmanship.

Science

This term in Science, Year 6 will be learning about **Light** and **Evolution and Inheritance** using the *Kapow Primary* scheme. In the Light unit, children will explore how light travels, how we see things, and how shadows are formed. They will investigate reflection, refraction, and the importance of sun safety. Through practical activities, they will gain a deeper understanding of how light behaves.

Later in the term, we will focus on Evolution and Inheritance. Pupils will learn how living things change over time and how characteristics are passed down through generations. They will explore adaptation and natural selection, using examples from nature to see how animals and plants have evolved. The children will also learn about the work of scientists like Charles Darwin. Both topics will include hands-on investigations, discussions, and opportunities to develop their scientific enquiry skills.

Computing

This term in Computing, using the resources from the National Centre for Computing Education, we will be focusing on **Communication and Collaboration**. Children will learn how to work effectively with others using digital tools, developing skills to share ideas and complete tasks together online. We will also continue to follow the **Education for a Connected World** framework, which helps children understand how to use technology responsibly and positively.

Importantly, **Online Safety** will be taught throughout the year, ensuring pupils know how to protect themselves and make safe choices when using the internet and digital devices. These lessons will build children's confidence and awareness in today's digital world.

RSHE

Our RSHE lessons will follow the Ten:Ten curriculum. As part of our commitment to providing age-appropriate, faith-based education, we are pleased to introduce this important programme, which meets statutory requirements and reflects our Catholic values. The curriculum is thoughtfully designed to promote a positive understanding of human life and relationships, incorporating Catholic teachings on love, creation, and the sanctity of life. These lessons aim to support your child's personal growth by giving them the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the challenges they may encounter during these important years of development.

Geography

This term, we will be using the Kapow scheme to learn about **Why Population Changes**. Through this unit, children will explore the factors that cause populations to grow or decline, such as birth rates, death rates, migration, and environmental influences. They will investigate how these changes affect communities and the world around us. The lessons will include a mix of discussions, data analysis, and case studies, helping children understand the impact of population changes on society and the environment.

Art and Design

This term in Art, we will be exploring two key topics: **Wassily Kandinsky** and **Perspective**. In the first half of the term, children will study the work of **Kandinsky**, a pioneer of abstract art. They will explore how he used **colour, shape, and line** to express emotion and ideas, and will experiment with creating their own abstract compositions inspired by his unique style. This unit will encourage creativity and help children build confidence in using art as a form of self-expression.

In the second half of the term, we will move on to the topic of **Perspective**. Children will develop their drawing skills by learning how to use **line, tone, and shade** to create depth and distance. They will explore how perspective techniques can bring landscapes to life and make drawings appear more realistic, building a strong foundation in observational drawing and spatial awareness.

General Reminders:

Homework

English and Maths homework will be set every **Thursday** and is expected to be returned by the following **Monday**. In addition, children will be expected to complete **three pieces of topic homework** each **half term**, linked to the subjects we are studying in class.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Other Key Points

In the summer term, Year 6 pupils will take their **KS2 SATs**. These will include one **reading paper**, a **grammar and punctuation paper**, a **spelling test**, and three **maths papers** – one **arithmetic** and two **reasoning**. **Writing** will be assessed by the teacher over time, and **Science** will also be teacher assessed.

To support your child's progress, regular practice with **daily reading**, **times tables**, and **solving word problems** will be very helpful. Examples of these will be uploaded to **Google Classroom** in due course, along with **practice SATs papers** for revision. Additionally, helping your child to confidently tell the time – using **12-hour and 24-hour clocks**, in both **analogue and digital** formats – would be of great benefit.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me via the school office.

History

This term in History, we will be exploring the question: **How has Dorking changed over time?** Using a range of sources including **maps, local records, and historical texts**, children will investigate how land use, transport, and employment have evolved. They will begin by examining how to use maps to raise and answer historical questions, and how land use has shifted in the local area. The topic will cover key periods from the **Stone Age to 1650**, focusing on how transport developments have shaped the town.

Later, the children will explore the **Industrial Revolution**, the impact on local employment, and what life was like for the poor in Dorking during the **mid-1900s**, including time spent learning about the **workhouse**.

**LEARNING AND GROWING IN THE LIGHT OF
GOD'S LOVE**