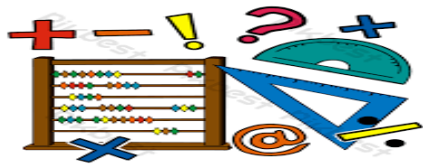


TERMtalk



CURRICULUM NEWS
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Issued termly Year 6 Autumn 2026



Our curriculum is planned to be engaging and inclusive, with activities adapted so that all children can take part, learn, and succeed.

Maths

This term, Year 6 will be focusing on key areas of mathematical knowledge.

Number

Pupils will read, write, order, and round numbers up to 5 million, including numbers with up to three decimal places. They will use formal written methods to carry out all four operations and will consolidate their understanding of fractions, decimals, and percentages.

Geometry

Pupils will identify, explain, and sort 2D shapes by their properties. They will draw and manipulate these shapes on a four-quadrant coordinate grid. Children will also identify, measure, and draw angles, including angles within triangles.

Statistics

Pupils will learn how to pose questions and develop lines of enquiry. They will apply their mathematical knowledge to interpret data, including working with averages and calculating the mean of data sets.

Measurement

Pupils will learn to convert units of measurement for length, mass, and capacity. They will also explore approximate equivalences between metric and imperial units, such as centimetres and inches. Children will study time, including how to read and interpret timetables and solve problems involving the 24-hour clock.

Homework

Weekly homework will be set every Friday and will relate to the maths studied that week. This will be set via MyMaths. If your child does not have internet access at home, local libraries offer free access.

Science

This term, we will be studying two topics:

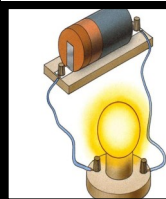
Electricity

We will build on work previously carried out in earlier years. Children will learn to:

- Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in a circuit.
- Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers, and the on/off position of switches.
- Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

Living Things and Their Habitats (Classification)

In this unit, children will explore what makes something alive by identifying the key characteristics of living things. They will learn how to use classification keys to identify animals and plants, and understand how these organisms are specifically adapted to their environments. We will also focus on scientific vocabulary related to categorisation and the reasoning behind it. Investigative work will help develop the children's scientific thinking, particularly in forming hypotheses and explaining their findings.



English

During the first part of the term, the children will be studying fairy tales. They will read *Grimm Tales for Young and Old* by Philip Pullman and *The Lost Happy Endings* by Carol Ann Duffy.

They will revisit classic favourites such as *Red Riding Hood* and discover new stories like *Hans My Hedgehog*. Children will explore the typical features of fairy tales and compare different versions of the same story. They will write character studies, setting descriptions, and diary entries from various character perspectives. In addition, they will revise how to correctly format and use speech in their own stories.

In the second half of the term, we will study *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan — a powerful wordless graphic novel that explores themes of immigration, displacement, and asylum. This links meaningfully with our work for Black History Month.

Children will complete a variety of writing tasks inspired by the text, including letters, character descriptions, diary entries, posters, a short report, and guides, culminating in a narrative based on one of the stories in the book.

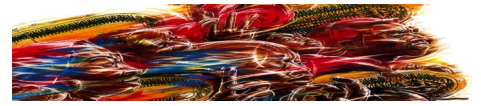
Throughout the term, we will focus on improving the quality of writing by:

- Using a wider range of punctuation
- Expanding descriptive vocabulary
- Writing more complex sentences

Children will also be encouraged to edit and improve their own work.

Spelling will be taught regularly, with a focus on patterns and rules in school, alongside weekly spelling homework. Grammar will be taught in context, linked to the texts we study.

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Art and Design Technology

This term, our Art and DT lessons will be closely linked to our Maafa topic. We will explore the work of significant Black artists, providing opportunities for children to analyse their styles and create artwork inspired by them.

We will also study colour theory through the colour wheel, exploring how to mix tints, shades, and tones. Building on this, we will examine key features of landscape art and look at significant well-known landscape artworks before creating our own landscape paintings.



As Christmas approaches, we will shift our focus to festive art and DT activities.

Children will have the opportunity to design and create their own Christmas-themed items, ensuring we take time to reflect on and celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Homework is set to consolidate your child's learning, and we ask that all children are supported to complete it. Homework may include:

- Learning to spell words from their spelling lists.
- Completing creative writing tasks.
- Working on *MyMaths*, *TT Rockstars* and *Spag.com*.

Parents are also asked to hear their child read every evening and sign their reading diary.

Homework is normally given out on Friday and handed in on Monday.

Computing

We will begin the term by revisiting the importance of e-safety. Children will recap the rules they should follow when online and discuss the importance of staying safe. We will also talk about what they can do if they come across anything that worries or concerns them while using the internet.

Following this, the children will use computer-based programs to create posters and leaflets that share important e-safety information with others.

Next, we will move on to programming and coding. Using the Scratch program, children will develop their understanding of algorithms through a drag-and-drop interface, allowing them to design and create their own computer games.

After the half-term break, we will continue

building on these skills using the code.org



scheme for algebraic coding. This will help bridge the gap between visual and textual programming, introducing children to key computing concepts such as strings, numbers, and Booleans.

History / Geography

Our History and Geography topic this term is Maafa. Maafa is a Swahili word meaning "great disaster" and is used to describe the African Holocaust—the devastating impact of colonisation and the transatlantic slave trade on Africa and its people.

Over a sequence of lessons, we will explore the rich history of African empires, followed by an in-depth look at the causes and consequences of colonisation. We will study the transatlantic slave trade and its devastating impact on African societies. Children will examine both the historical events and the lasting legacy of colonialism, including the ongoing effects still felt today.

This topic will also be closely linked with our PSHE and RE work, encouraging thoughtful reflection, empathy, and deeper understanding. We believe this is an important and enlightening subject that will empower our children with knowledge and perspective.

To launch the topic, we hope to host an Afternoon Celebrating Africa, where children will be invited to:
Wear traditional dress from their heritage

Bring in a dish from their home country to share with others

This will be a special opportunity to honour culture, identity, and the diverse backgrounds of our school community.



Whole Class Reading

This will give the children the opportunity to take a closer look at specific sections of the text. They will explore elements such as language structure, writing style, vocabulary choices, and what is revealed about the plot or characters.

All children will benefit from regular opportunities for small-group reading, discussion, and writing with a teacher or teaching assistant.

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Online Learning

This year, we will be using Google Classroom to support your child's learning. Your child will receive a login and password for this platform soon. More information about how we will be using Google Classroom will be sent to you in due course.

Below are some useful websites that can be accessed at home to support your child's learning:

- MyMaths (weekly assigned work): <https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>
- Spag.com (weekly assigned work): <https://www.spag.com/>
- TT Rockstars (weekly assigned work): <https://trockstars.com/>
- Oak National Academy (year-group lessons): <https://classroom.thenational.academy/year-groups>
- Primary Homework Help (additional resources): <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>
- The School Run (homework help and learning tips): <https://www.theschoolrun.com/>

We encourage you to explore these sites with your child to support their learning journey.



PE

This term, our PE lessons will focus on rugby, hockey, and netball.

In rugby and netball, the children will explore different ways to move and pass the ball. They will practise key skills and apply these in small games against each other. There will also be opportunities to compete against other schools.

In hockey, we will focus on stick-handling skills, as well as passing and shooting techniques. Children will develop these basic skills before using them in game situations.

All children will have the chance to try all three sports on a rotating basis.

As always, there are many opportunities for Year 6 pupils to represent the school, including the cross country championships, which take place within the first few weeks of the term.

PE Kit

Children must wear the correct PE kit at all times. This includes:

Plain white T-shirt
Navy blue shorts
Trainers or plimsolls (no fashion trainers)

For outdoor games in winter, children may wear a plain navy blue or black track-suit. Leggings are not allowed.

Children will change for PE at school, so they need to bring their kit on the day of their lesson. Please make sure the kit is in the blue PE bag—not a rucksack.

Religious Education



The first topic this term is Creation and Covenant. In this topic, children will explore the Christian belief that everything comes from God through stories from the Book of Genesis. They will study the story of Creation and the Fall, exploring ideas such as free will, sin and the effect our choices can have on our relationship with God, other people and the world around us.

In class, children will learn about God's covenants, or promises, and how Christians believe that Jesus brings a New Covenant and restores our relationship with God. They will also explore the Sacrament of Baptism, the Nicene Creed and the teachings of *Laudato Si'* about caring for our world. Children will consider the relationship between faith and science and how Christians can see scientific discoveries as helping them to appreciate the wonder of God's Creation.

After half term, our topic will be Prophecy and Promise. Linking with the season of Advent, children will learn about the prophets of the Old Testament and explore how their words and teachings pointed towards the coming of Jesus. They will develop their understanding of Jesus as the Messiah promised by God and consider how Christians understand these Old Testament stories as being fulfilled through Jesus.

As we prepare for Christmas, Year 6 will learn about the spiritual preparations of Advent as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. They will also explore how Christmas customs from different countries and cultures have influenced our celebrations.

