



Year 6 China

Curriculum Information

Autumn term 2026

Welcome back to an exciting new school year! We hope you've all enjoyed a wonderful summer full of rest and adventure, and that you're as ready as we are to dive into the challenges and opportunities of Year 6. It's been fantastic to see the children return full of energy, looking smart in their uniforms, and eager to get stuck into their learning. This newsletter will give you an overview of the curriculum we'll be exploring this term, along with some key information to help you stay up to date with all that's happening in Year 6.

General information: Children are expected to arrive at school by 8:30am, ready to organise themselves for the day ahead and to complete their morning activities. Work is set during this period. Being on time is really important, as this first part of the morning sets the tone for successful learning. The register will be taken promptly at 8:40am.

We also make regular use of Google Classroom to share timetable updates, reminders, and homework tasks. Please encourage your child to check it often so they don't miss anything important.

Finally, we kindly ask that all items—uniform, PE kit, water bottle, and personal belongings—are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps us to quickly return lost items and keeps everything running smoothly.

Curriculum:

For a more detailed overview of the curriculum please see the curriculum maps on the school website.

[Year 6 web page.](#)



English

This term, our Year 6 pupils will be immersing themselves in a range of rich and engaging texts to inspire their writing. We will begin with *Brightstorm* by Vashti Hardy, using the exciting adventure to develop diary and ship's log writing, as well as both formal and informal letters.

The children will also take inspiration from the thought-provoking Literacy Shed film *Pandora*, which will provide an exciting context for writing a non-chronological report. Through *The Eye of the Storm*, pupils will develop their narrative writing skills, using description and atmosphere to engage the reader. Later in the term, we will explore the magical world of *Harry Potter* by J.K. Rowling, using the text to inspire narrative writing and effective dialogue.

All grammar teaching will be carefully woven into our writing units, enabling children to learn, practise and apply their skills in meaningful and engaging contexts.

Reading

This term, we will be using **Fluency Shed** to support the development of confident and fluent readers. Fluency Shed provides a consistent weekly framework which allows children to develop and practise key reading skills through repetition.

During these sessions, we will focus on three important aspects of reading:

- **Accuracy** – reading the words correctly.
- **Automaticity** – being able to recognise and read words quickly and effortlessly, without having to stop and sound out every word.
- **Prosody** – reading with expression, appropriate pace and intonation so that the text sounds natural and its meaning is clearly communicated.

Our weekly reading texts this term will include a wide range of fiction, poetry and non-fiction. These include:

1. *Battle on the Dunes* by Dan Smith
2. *Hansel and Gretel* by the Brothers Grimm
3. *Refugees* by Brian Bilston
4. *A Sharpened Shadow* by Andy Loneragan and Jonathan Pearce
5. *A Sharpened Shadow* by Andy Loneragan and Jonathan Pearce
6. *Crime and Punishment: Capital Punishment*
7. *A Little Princess* by Frances Hodgson Burnett
8. *John Cage's 4'33"* from The Literacy Shed
9. *The Watchers* by Joseph Coelho
10. *The Witches' Spell* by William Shakespeare
11. *There Will Come Soft Rains* and *Winter Stars* by Sara Teasdale

12. *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

Alongside our weekly fluency sessions, we will also be reading longer novels to promote a love of reading, develop children's comprehension skills and build their reading stamina. This term, our extended reading texts will be *Brightstorm* by Vashti Hardy and *The Giant's Necklace* by Michael Morpurgo.

As a school, we are continuing to focus on developing children's reading for pleasure and would love to see this being encouraged at home. We will share a link to our reading spine and suggested Top 100 Books, which provide lots of ideas for books that children may enjoy reading.

Spelling

We have shared a list of the Year 3–6 statutory spellings through Google Classroom. It is important that children are able to spell these words accurately by the end of Year 6, and it is helpful for both pupils and parents to identify any words that need further practice. Any words that are regularly misspelt should be practised little and often.

Alongside the statutory spellings, children will continue to receive weekly spellings focusing on particular spelling patterns and rules. These spellings will be practised and tested each week in school.

Maths: In Year 6, we will continue to build children's confidence, independence and enjoyment of mathematics, with a focus on fluency, problem-solving and reasoning across all areas of the curriculum, including number, fractions, decimals, percentages, measures, geometry and statistics.

Regular practice of multiplication tables remains really important, as quick recall helps children tackle more challenging maths with confidence. Times Tables Rock Stars is a great resource for this, while SATs Boot Camp provides useful practice and revision of the key skills and knowledge needed for the Year 6 SATs. Even a few minutes of regular practice can make a big difference, and please speak to us if you would like any advice on how best to support your child at home.

Some useful Maths websites:

Topmarks Lots of fun games for children of all ages.

Maths Zone More fun games but more suitable of Key Stage 2.

TTRS Multiplication challenges for Year 2 to Year 6. Each child has their own login. **BBC**

Bitesize For games and information to support the learning.

<https://www.yearsix.co.uk/sats-boot-camp/> SATs Boot Camp will be used as a method of revision leading up to the Year 6 final KS2 assessments. Individual logins will be provided

Science: Light

In science this term, our topic is Light. The children will investigate how light travels, how shadows are formed, and how we see objects. They will explore the way light reflects from

different surfaces, learn how mirrors work, and discover how light is refracted when it passes through water or glass. We'll also be looking closely at the anatomy of the human eye and how it enables us to see. Through practical experiments and investigations, the children will develop their scientific enquiry skills while deepening their understanding of this fascinating topic.

Geography: This term, our geography enquiry question is "Why does population change?" Children will explore how and why populations change in different parts of the world, using maps, atlases and digital mapping to investigate patterns of population and settlement. They will compare different regions of the UK, Europe and the Americas and consider how factors such as jobs, resources and migration can influence where people choose to live. The children will also use fieldwork and local data to investigate population change closer to home.

History: In History, we will investigate what the census can tell us about our local area and the people who lived there in the past. Children will learn what the census is and how historians use census records to make inferences about people's lives, including Victorian children, the jobs available in the 1800s and the reasons some women refused to complete the 1911 Census. We will also explore what changed in the 1921 Census and use census records to discover who lived in our local area in the past, helping children to develop their skills in interpreting historical evidence.

Computing: In computing this term, the children will begin with an important focus on **E-safety**, learning how to use technology safely, respectfully, and responsibly. They will explore what acceptable and unacceptable online behaviour looks like and discover different ways to report concerns about content or contact. Building on this, they will develop their creative skills through a short **Graphic Design** unit, where they will use a range of software and digital tools to design and produce content with a clear purpose. Alongside this, the children will also practise their **Internet research** skills across the curriculum, learning how to search effectively, understand how results are ranked, and evaluate the reliability of digital information.

French: In French this term, our unit is called "**This is me!**". The children will recap how to share personal information and build on this by using a range of **adjectives to describe both personality and appearance**. They will also learn to talk about their **aspirations and future professions**, giving them the language to express who they are and who they would like to become. This unit will give pupils the confidence to talk about themselves in more detail, while developing their vocabulary and strengthening their conversational skills.

Art: In Art, our focus will be on drawing, exploring depth, emotion and movement. Inspired by the work of Charlie Mackesy and Elizabeth Catlett, children will investigate how expressive lines, marks and shading can be used to communicate feelings, capture movement and create a sense of depth. They will develop their ideas through drawing, explore composition and then use printmaking to transform their drawn ideas into finished pieces of artwork.

Music: This term, children will explore the exciting world of pop music through our *Four-Chord Pop: Playing in a Band* unit. They will develop their vocal and instrumental skills while learning about rhythm, harmony and how different musical parts work together. By combining bass lines, chords, rhythms and harmonies, the children will work collaboratively to perform confidently as a band.

R.E : This term, the children will be exploring the theme “Jesus and His Teachings”, with a focus on the concept of Message. They will consider the question “*How do you get your message across?*” and look at how Jesus communicated His ideas to others. The children will reflect on why messages are important, explore different ways of sharing them, and think about how these lessons can relate to communication in their own lives.

HPE: Your child will need suitable footwear and warm clothing for outside PE as well as an indoor PE kit. All pupils are expected to take part in this session and need to dress appropriately for the weather. In order to make the lessons safe and accessible for all, children should not be wearing any jewellery for PE. Your child should be able to remove piercings themselves, tape is not sufficient protection and should not be used to cover earrings.

Year 6 HPE day: Monday and Tuesday afternoon.

Homework:

- 1) Weekly spelling homework will be given out on Friday and tested on the following Thursday.
- 2) Pupils are expected to read each day for at least 20 minutes.
- 3) Maths homework is set on a Friday and due on the following Thursday.

In addition, children have their Timestable Rockstars and Spelling Shed – please encourage your child to access these sites at home and complete their activities. We also encourage use of SATs Bootcamp to support pupils with their Y6 exams.

This year, in order to ensure children don’t fall behind their peers and continue to be ready for their next stage of learning, they will be asked to stay in to complete homework during break-time if it has not been handed in. Alternatively, arrangements can be made to attend our homework club. Please come and see us if there is a reason why your child has been unable to complete the work in any given week.

If you have any questions or can offer your help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Y6 SATs

Year 6 pupils will be working towards their end of Key Stage exams. These will take place during the week beginning Monday 10th May- Thursday 13th May 2027. These tests will

help check to see if a pupil is 'secondary ready'. Writing is assessed by the school. This will be ongoing throughout the year.

Your child might be invited to before or after-school booster sessions. We need your support in encouraging them to attend. High attendance is crucial. We request that you do not book a holiday during this important time.

Mrs Kate Martin