

Phase 3 Curriculum Overview Autumn Term



We are so excited to welcome your children into Year 5 and 6! In Phase 3, we love to have fun and make lasting memories, but we also work hard to prepare the children for the big leap to secondary school. A huge part of this transition is fostering independence, building resilience, and encouraging them to take responsibility for their own actions and belongings.

To help them develop these vital life skills and keep our days running smoothly, please note the following daily essentials and expectations:

- **Reading:** Children are expected to read at home **5 times a week** and must bring their reading record into school **every day**.
- **PE Kit:** On PE days, children need a plain white top, black bottoms and trainers. **No earrings** are allowed for safety.
- **Uniform Note:** School shoes or trainers must be **plain black**. Also, please ensure hair is **tied back at all times** if it is below shoulder length.
- **Daily Essentials:** Every child needs to bring a **backpack** and a **water bottle** daily.

Top Tip: Please ensure **all clothing and items are clearly labelled** with your child's name so we can easily return any misplaced gear!

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping your child have a successful, independent and brilliant year ahead!

AS WRITERS WE WILL

Expand vocabulary, grammar, and structural skills to adapt writing for diverse audiences and purposes.

Master the foundational writing skills necessary to craft clear, compelling sentences.

Utilize varied sentence structures tailored to specific writing goals.

Enhance descriptive language skills to effectively captivate and engage readers.

AS READERS WE WILL...

In class, our students are becoming deeply engaged with rich, complex texts like *Goodnight Mister Tom*, *Holes*, and *Wonder* to build essential skills for the future. We are actively encouraging longer periods of deep, focused reading to build the stamina they will need as they transition to secondary school. Rather than just skimming the surface, we are asking students to act as "detectives" by using inference and deduction to read between the lines, uncovering characters' hidden motivations and authors' intentions. Alongside this, we are focusing heavily on vocabulary building exploring complex words, idioms, and figurative language to enrich both their reading comprehension and their own creative writing.

IN RE WE WILL...

Year 5- This term we are going to reflect on what people need for a happy life, linking this to spiritual and holistic experiences. We will learn to describe and recognise covenants and how our choices affect our relationship with God and others.

Year 6 - This term we are going to focus on:

Creation & The Fall: Exploring the Genesis stories, original sin, and how Christians believe our relationship with God was first damaged.

The New Covenant: Discovering how that bond is restored through Jesus by studying John's Gospel, Baptism, and the Nicene Creed.

Stewardship: Looking at Pope Francis' letter *Laudato Si'* to learn how we can care for and protect our environment.

Faith & Science: Studying the scientist-priest Georges Lemaître to see how scientific discovery and religious faith beautifully coexist.

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AS MATHEMATICIANS WE WILL...

Master part–part–whole structures for additive problem-solving.

Simplify addition calculations using equivalence and compensation strategies.

Manipulate numbers up to 8 digits through ordering, comparing, and calculating.

AS SCIENTISTS WE WILL...

begin by retrieving our knowledge of light sources to discover how light links to our summer and winter seasons. From there, students will explore the solar system, identifying the Sun, Earth, and Moon as spherical bodies, while learning to describe their complex movements and orbits. We will use the concept of the Earth's rotation to explain the daily cycle of day and night, and dive into history to research the incredible mathematician Katherine Johnson, exploring how her key scientific findings changed space travel forever.

AS GEOGRAPHERS WE WILL...

In this exciting unit, **Year 5 and 6** will launch into a thrilling expedition across the Western Hemisphere to investigate **North and South America**. We will put our mapping skills to the test as we track the vast mountain spines of the Rockies and the Andes, and discover why the Amazon River flows so differently from the Mississippi. By comparing the bustling streets of New York City with the vibrant megacity of São Paulo, we will uncover how climate, history, and geography shape where and how people live. As global citizens, we will also step into the shoes of environmental scientists to tackle big questions about biodiversity and deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.

AS HISTORIANS WE WILL...

In this fascinating unit, **Year 5 and 6** will travel back in time to explore the power, politics, and people behind the **Monarchy since 1066**. Our journey begins on the bloody battlefield of Hastings, where William the Conqueror seized the crown and forever changed the course of English history. We will investigate how the role of the monarch has transformed over nearly a thousand years—evolving from absolute rulers who claimed to be chosen by God, to the constitutional monarchs of today.

Through analyzing primary sources, royal portraits, and historical artifacts, we will step into the shoes of the standard-bearers, rebels, and monarchs themselves. We will debate the dramatic clashes between Kings and Parliament, explore the turbulent reigns of the Tudors and Stuarts, and examine how the British Empire expanded during the Victorian era. Get ready to develop your skills as historical detectives, questioning the past to discover how these powerful rulers shaped the laws, culture, and society we live in today!



CURRICULUM

IN THE ARTS WE WILL...In Art We Will... (Painting)

In this creative unit, **Year 5 and 6** will develop our skills as artists by exploring the expressive world of **Painting**. We will master colour-mixing techniques, learning how to manipulate hue, tint, tone, and shade to create depth, mood, and atmospheric perspective in our work. Inspired by influential artists, we will experiment with different brushwork techniques—from bold, textured strokes to delicate washes—using a variety of mediums like acrylics or watercolours. Get ready to turn a blank canvas into a powerful visual story, building your unique artistic voice and learning how to critique and refine your artwork along the way!

In D.T. We Will... (Structures)

In this hands-on unit, **Year 5 and 6** will step into the shoes of structural engineers to design, make, and evaluate **Frame Structures**. We will investigate how real-world architecture—from modern skyscrapers to historical bridges—withstands forces like tension and compression. Put your practical skills to the test as we learn how to accurately measure, cut, and join materials, using techniques like triangulation and reinforcing beams to make our frameworks strong and stable. Finally, we will test our finished structures against specific design criteria, evaluating their strength and functionality just like real designers

AS MUSICIANS WE WILL...

We will explore the building blocks of music—including pitch, rhythm, tempo, and dynamics—and learn how these elements come together to create different moods and genres. Put your performance skills to the test as we practice singing in harmony and playing instruments with increasing control, expression, and accuracy.

We will also tap into our creativity by composing our own musical pieces, using both traditional notation and digital tools to record our ideas.

IN COMPUTING WE WILL...

This term, students are diving into an exciting computing unit focused on how the digital world works. They will begin by exploring the fundamental concept of systems - both in everyday life and within computers - before mastering the mechanics of the internet. Throughout the unit, students will learn how search engines crawl and rank websites, how to critically select the most reliable search results, and how advertising and personal data can influence what they see online.

Ultimately, this unit aims to transform your child from a digital consumer into a savvy, critical thinker who can navigate the online world safely and efficiently. ■



CURRICULUM

IN JIGSAW WE WILL...

This term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be diving into the "Being Me in My World" unit of the Jigsaw curriculum, which focuses on personal growth, community, and citizenship. Over the coming weeks, the children will reflect on their own lives by setting meaningful goals and discussing how to embrace new challenges with a positive, resilient mindset. We will also explore the concepts of rights and responsibilities, helping them understand what it means to be a global citizen and a valued member of our school. Crucially, our pupils will examine how their individual choices and actions can impact those around them, fostering a deep sense of empathy, teamwork, and shared responsibility as they lead by example this year.

IN FRENCH WE WILL...

Year 5 and 6 will dive into the French language through two exciting themes: **The Date** and **At the Tea Room** (*Au salon de thé*). As linguists, we will learn how to talk about time and celebrate milestones by mastering the days of the week, the twelve months of the year, and numbers up to 31 so we can confidently say today's date and share when our birthdays are. Then, we will transport ourselves to a bustling French café! We will develop our speaking and listening skills by role-playing as customers and servers, learning how to politely order traditional treats like *un croissant*, *un thé*, or *un gâteau*, and ask for the bill (*l'addition, s'il vous plaît*). Through fun games, songs, and conversational practice, we will build our confidence, perfect our French accent, and discover the rich culture of French food and hospitality. *Bon appétit!*

IN P.E WE WILL...Year 5 and 6 will hit the field

to master the fast-paced, non-contact game of **Tag Rugby!** As athletes, we will develop our agility, speed, and spatial awareness, learning how to dodge defenders with quick footwork and make precise, backward passes while on the move. We will work on our defensive skills, mastering the art of the "shadow tackle" to track opponents and snatch their tags with perfect timing. Beyond the physical skills, we will become strategic team players. We will learn how to communicate effectively on the pitch, create space to break through the opposition's defensive line, and understand the core rules of the game—including offsides and forward passes.

PHASE 3 TEAM

Miss Johnson
Mrs Hayden-Craggs
Miss Cowan

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Phase 3 P.E day: Tuesdays
Prayer with 6J: 24th September
Prayer with 6H-C: 1st October
Prayer with Year 5: 5th November
School trip to Whitby: 15th October
Year 5 Craft Afternoon: 20th November
6J Craft Afternoon: 30th November
Non-Uniform day: 4th December
6H-C Craft Afternoon: 7th December
Christmas Jumper Day: 10th December