

UKS2 Summer 1 Newsletter 2026

Our topics this half term are 'Forces and Space' and 'Energy: Circuits batteries and switches' in Science and 'The Anglo-Saxons' and 'Crime and Punishment' in History

English



This half term, Year 5 will be reading the text 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo and delving deeper into the text with reading comprehension questions and grammar activities and focusing on different types of writing linked to the text.

Year 6 will be completing a non-fiction report based on the novel Journey to Jo'burg. The children will learn how to use a range of advanced punctuation (semicolons, colons, inverted commas, dashes, hyphens and commas) and are attempting to include the full range of punctuation in their writing each week. We will also be revisiting spelling, SPaG and guided reading objectives in preparation for the SATS.



Each week the children are set weekly spellings through Spelling Shed - we would really like the children to practice these weekly - aim for at least 4 times a week, this will support your child not only with their spellings but also within their writing. The children also need to be regularly practicing the Year 5 & 6 common exception words so that they can begin to use them within their work - Thank you for your support with this.

Maths



This half term, Year 5 will learn about line graphs and tables. Children will look at examples of line graphs that display discrete and continuous data and at dual line graphs. They will also make, complete and interpret two-way tables. The children will also be learning about angles within shapes, through identifying and measuring different angles, as well as using a protractor.

Year 6 will extend their understanding of measuring angles to draw shapes accurately and explore the interior angles of shapes, building on prior knowledge of angles on a straight line. Children will continue to develop their reasoning skills by interpreting properties of circles and will focus on exploring 3D shapes when given 2D representations. We will continue to develop the children's understanding of SATS style questions in preparation for the tests this half term.



Please encourage your child to practice their times tables, the children are understanding the importance of this, especially within the units we are covering in class. Encourage your child to use TTRockstars to support them with learning all their times tables and division facts. Also encourage your child to practice their mental arithmetic as much as possible - 5 minutes a day can make a huge difference.

Science



Our science topic for Year 5 this half term is 'Forces and Space: Unbalanced Forces'. The children will build on their knowledge of contact and non-contact forces, the children will explore gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance.

In year 6, children will begin to describe the function of key electrical components in our 'Energy: Circuits, batteries and switches' topic. They will make predictions as to whether certain electrical circuits will work or not, as well as recognising a link between the number of components and resistance. They will draw circuit diagrams using standard circuit symbols and explain results using scientific knowledge.

History

In Year 5, the children will be learning about The Anglo-Saxons. They will learn about the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain and some of the major changes during this period. The children will gain an overview of the significant people and events during the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain. They will contrast everyday life during the Anglo-Saxon period with modern British lifestyles, as well as considering broader historical themes of invading and settling before a time when Britain was unified under a single monarch. The children also become familiar with historical sources and accurate vocabulary relating to the Anglo-Saxon period.

In year 6, the children will be learning about Crime and Punishment over different periods in history. They will begin by exploring crime and punishment in the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Viking periods, whilst also considering the medieval and Tudor periods. The children will learn how crime and punishment changed when one period ended and the next began. They will also learn how crime changed throughout history and how this in turn meant that punishment had to fit the crime. At all stages, comparisons will be made with crime and punishment today.

R.E.

Within this unit, pupils will find out about the importance of creation within the 'Big Story' of the Bible. They will study Genesis 1 and find out about how different Christians may interpret this text in different ways. Pupils will spend time discussing and weighing up whether Genesis 1 is conflicting or complementary with what science says. Pupils will also encounter scientists who are religious and those who are not, and discuss how they may or may not find science and faith compatible. They will encounter different theological theories that some Christians use to interpret the creation story, suggesting why these may be helpful for believers. By the end of the unit, pupils should understand that whilst some people see science and religion as opposites, others do not.

Computing

The children will continue to use Purple Mash to learn about networking. The aim is to provide children with the opportunity to find out more about how networks work, understand computer networks including the Internet, learn how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web, and explore the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration.

Art and Design

This half term in Art and Design the children will be learning about sculpture and 3D: making memories. The children will have the opportunity to discuss the work of artists that appreciate different artistic styles. They will suggest ways to represent memories through imagery, shapes and colours and will create their own sculpture to express themselves in a literal or symbolic way.

Music



This half a term, the children will be exposed to a brief history of reggae, seeing it as an important music genre. Pupils learn about the key reggae musical features and listen to and appraise music by world famous reggae artists. Pupils will recap and expand upon features such as chord patterns, riffs, bass lines and melodies. In groups, they will create their own chord structures with which to fit bass lines and phrase melodic lines. Pupils will have the opportunity to perform drum groove patterns following given rhythm notation.

P.E.



The children are partaking in athletics and volleyball throughout this half term.

	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 5	Athletics Tennis	Golf Rounders
Year 6	Athletics Volleyball	Tennis Rounders

Please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit - **trainers, plain red or white t-shirt and black shorts/jogging bottoms, earrings must be removed if possible or taped over and hair tied up** on their allocated PE days. The children will be outside for PE, please can you make sure that they have a warm and appropriate PE kit. If it is warm, please ensure that children have a sunhat and wear sunscreen.

Values/PSHE

We are working as a school on our School Values along with our Golden Rules of showing 'Readiness, Respect & Responsibility.

Within PHSE this half a term, we will be learning about physical and mental health, and what we can do to take care of our bodies and our minds. The children will learn about healthy sleep habits, healthy food and drink choices, the importance of physical activity and what mental health is and how we can look after it. The children will also learn about puberty and what happens to their bodies as they grow and change.



Please help your child work on 'Responsibility & Readiness' by encouraging them to maintain their attendance & punctuality (8.50am in their line on the playground) and reminding them to check they have their book bag, water bottle, and reading book each day.

Homework The Year 5 children have been given their Summer Term 1 homework menu, so please have fun supporting your child completing these. We would like the children to complete at least three of these tasks by **Wednesday 20th May**.

The Year 6 children will continue to have weekly homework set.

Reading - Listen to your child read as often as you can. Discuss the story, characters and meaning of new words. Try to ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding.

Spellings - We have introduced an online platform for the children to support the children with their spellings through play games. All children have been given an EdShed login. New words/spellings will be given

each week for the children to practice at home through their spelling she login. **Please encourage your child to work through the tasks/assignments set for them. Thank you.**

Times tables - The children need to continue to practice their times table to support their work within Maths. We encourage the children to play ttrackstars at home. Login's are in the children's reading records with their Purple Mash and EdShed login's as well. Please encourage and have fun.

PE Days -

Tuesday & Thursday - Pine

Wednesday & Thursday - Cedar

Thank you for your continued support.

If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

UKS2 Team