



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome back to Bushfield and to a brand new school year. We have an exciting Autumn half term planned for Year 6. To ensure that children have a smooth transition into their final year here, we are going to be catching up on some of the Summer Year 5 Curriculum and then start to integrate the Year 6 Curriculum. We will begin by looking at key learning from the Anglo-Saxons unit before moving on to covering the most significant skills from the Year 5 mountains topic. The half term will end with the Year 6 topic of Russia. We know that it will be very strange for the children coming back into school but we will do everything we can to support the children and best prepare them for the year ahead.

Meet the Team

The term will begin with a few days of transition activities to help everyone settle in. For the first few weeks, we will be joined by Mrs Khimji and Mrs Alexander who will be helping us to teach English and Maths to smaller class bubbles.

Week 1 & 2

English

We will begin the term writing a some non-fiction linked to our Science learning, giving us the opportunity to use layout features and technical language. Our reading will focus on understanding the meaning of words in context: an essential skill to master when encountering more tricky words throughout the rest of Year 6.

Maths

We will be consolidating our written methods and familiarising ourselves with fractions, specifically finding fractions of whole numbers and calculating with fractions and mixed numbers. We will also cover some shape topics too such as finding missing lengths, angles and the area and perimeter of quadrilaterals.

Topic (Anglo Saxons)

In Science we will be learning about the different life-cycles of different types of animals and plants, and discussing the similarities and differences between them. In Computing, we will be using Microsoft Publisher to create a factual leaflet, linking to our non-fiction work in English. In History, we will be focusing on where the Anglo-Saxons settled in England, in particular focusing our historical inquiry skills and using sources of evidence to investigate the archeological site of Sutton Hoo and the impact this era had on culture. In Art, we will be learning about the sculptor Naum Gabo and the characteristic features of his work and those of Anglo-Saxon helmets, drawing the styles together to create our own designs. We will be using pencils and chalk to create our own observational drawing of an animal. Our RE learning in these two weeks will focus on the festivals of Islam. We will also have weekly lessons based on growth mind-set.

Week 3 & 4

English

We will build on the previous two weeks by starting to write explanation texts, linked to our topic learning. We will learn about cause and effect conjunctions in Grammar and make sure that we incorporate these in to our writing as well as modal verbs and imperative verbs and begin to use more complex and varied clause structures. Our reading work will focus on the skill of retrieval and answering literal questions about the text using skimming and scanning. We will also look at how to use evidence in the text to make predictions.

Maths

We will begin by understanding decimal place value before looking at this in the context of measure by converting measures and calculating with measurements.

This work on decimals will lead in to learning about percentages and their equivalence with decimals and fractions.



Miss Campbell Miss Baldwin



Mrs Davey Miss Peacock



Mrs Polmear Miss Sheard

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of who
you are

Homework

Spellings

The children will still receive new spellings on a Monday which will be stuck in their log books. They will be tested the following Monday. They can log in to Spelling Shed to practise at home.

Reading

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They can choose an appropriate reading book at school on a Monday, which can then be handed back in on a Friday. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers.

Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded merits.

Maths

The children will be set maths homework at least once a fortnight depending which group they are in. This will usually be on MyMaths. If the children need additional support or access to a computer to complete it they can attend homework club.

Homework Project

This term your child will be set a homework linked to our learning across the curriculum.

Thank you for your support with this. Further details will follow.

Topic

Linking to our English work on explanation texts, in DT we will be learning the process of how to make bread. We will explore different types of bread from around the world and become familiar with the ingredients and procedures used in different recipes. We will also consider what makes a healthy diet and how this forms part of a healthy lifestyle. In PSHE we will also look at other ways to keep our physical selves healthy, looking at personal hygiene in particular. In Science, we will be looking at how humans develop physiologically throughout their lives and the different developmental stages, while making links to Maths learning on how to present data. In Geography, we will be looking at Mountains—specifically learning about the different types of mountains and how they are formed. We will develop skills in reading maps by understanding contour lines and apply this to our own field study of the land height on the school site. In Computing, we will be starting a project using the software Scratch, where children will develop their coding skills to create a boat race game.

Week 5&6

English

Linking to our work in topic, we will be writing detailed description of wolves and werewolf transformations. We will focus on using a wide variety of descriptive techniques and ambitious vocabulary, alongside ellipsis and short sentences to create an appropriate tone to our writing. Our reading focus over these two weeks will focus on the more challenging reading skill of inference—knowing how to 'read between the lines'. We will also look at some non-fiction texts about wolves to support our learning in other subjects.

Maths

We will begin more challenging calculations involving long multiplication and division and being able to give remainders as decimals. We will revisit and extend our learning on finding missing angles. Our fractions understanding will develop by learning how to simplify fractions using common multiples and continuing to learn how to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers. We will also revisit converting measures in the context of word problems, as well as continuing learning on area and perimeter.

Topic

The first of our Year 6 topics that we encounter this year will be Russia (which has one of the largest concentration of wolf populations in the world). Our geography work will look at using atlases to locate the physical geographical features of Russia, such as cities, biomes and climate zones, and then focusing on natural resources, land use and how land use has changed over time. Our Art project will focus on the skill of sketching and how to create tone and texture while maintaining proportion as we sketch wolves in detail. Our science topic will focus on light, how light travels, and how we see objects and shadows. In Computing, we will continue our Scratch project to develop Year 6 coding skills. In PSHE, we will begin a unit of work that will extend in to the second half of Autumn 2 that will focus on aspects of mental health.

Music

Music over this half term will focus on the key skill of listening to and appraising the dimensions of music within different musical contexts and genres.

French

The first part of the half term will focus on developing children's French vocabulary of food. They will learn how to say the names of different foods and snacks before applying this in context to design a menu and a pizza. The second half of the half term will focus on how to describe the weather using specific phrases as well as learning about place names in France to be able to write a weather report.

PE

PE this half term will be taught on a Friday morning. We will be asking children to come in to school in their PE kit on a Friday so that they do not have to change at school. The first two weeks of PE will focus on athletic skills of sprinting, long jump and triple jump. This will be followed by two weeks focusing on cricket where the children will develop skill in batting and bowling. The next two weeks will focus on racket sports tennis and badminton where children will focus on forehand, backhand and overhand shots. They will also learn how to create a short exercise session.

Autumn 2

After half term, we will fully begin our Year 6 curriculum, beginning with one of our favourite topics—World War II.

English

The first part of the half term will see children use their new learning on WW2 as a stimulus to write, especially focusing on life for evacuees and what it would have been like to experience the Blitz during the Battle of Britain as well as moving to the countryside away from their families. Later in the term, we write from the point of view of the WW2 pilots, writing a gripping suspense narrative of a dog-fight up in the skies during the Battle of Britain.

Maths

We will build on learning on fractions, decimals and extend this to percentages as well as geometry and measurement too. We will also continue to practise calculation (including long division) alongside learning in algebra, ratio and proportion, and statistics.

Science

After half term, the learning will centre around 'Animals and Humans', where we will learn about a range of biological concepts such as digestion, the circulation system and the impact of lifestyle choices on health. As the term continues, we further our learning by looking at 'Living Things', their features and classifications.

History

During this topic, the children will learn about life on the home-front, especially for evacuees and the experience of the Blitz during the Battle of Britain. We will use a range of sources of evidence to interpret the historical events. We will learn about the role of our local area in the war through finding out about Bletchley park and the role code breaking played.

DT

Our focus of DT this half term will be sewing. Based on the WW2 approach of 'Make do and mend', the children will be designing and making their own 1940s style waistcoat—even making their own pattern piece.

Computing

We will explore the important subject of e-safety. We will look at how to deal with bullying on line and what is considered appropriate online behaviour.

French

We will focus on learning vocabulary to describe the weather on a particular day and making a simple weather forecast. The second half term will link back to our learning on 'Wolves' by understanding information texts and making fact-files on wolves in French: physical descriptions, habitat, food etc. We will also look at the traditional tale of 'Little Red Riding Hood' in French.

Music

In Music, we will be focusing on listening and appreciating music. We will listen to a range of composers and musical styles, making notes on the dynamics of the different pieces.

PE

PE returns to being twice weekly—on a Wednesday afternoon and a Friday morning, meaning that children need to come in to school in their PE kits on these days. Games will be football focusing on the roles of defenders and attackers. In PE, they will be covering basketball with their inside PE focusing on gymnastics.