



Year 6 Class Newsletter - Autumn 1 2026-2027

English

This term, Year 6 will write a WW2-inspired portal story, in which a character is mysteriously transported back in time to experience life during the war. Pupils will develop their narrative writing skills, focusing on cohesion, noun phrases, adverbials, purposeful dialogue and Year 6 punctuation.

Our second writing unit will focus on writing a diary entry in the style of Flossie Albright, the main character from our guided reading book. Pupils will explore how to convey thoughts, feelings and experiences through first-person writing.

For National Poetry Week, we will also explore blackout poetry, creating new poems from existing texts and experimenting with word choice and meaning.

Guided Reading

In Guided Reading this term, we will be reading two WW2 inspired fiction books as well as appropriate extracts from the non-fiction text 'technology war and independence' to support our history learning.



Maths

Following our engagement with our local Maths Hub, we are revamping our maths curriculum this year using the NCETM curriculum prioritisation documents. This approach will help pupils move beyond simply learning procedures, developing a deeper understanding of the structure and relationships within mathematics. We will begin by exploring key mathematical structures and exposing structures within mathematical stories before moving on to how numbers are composed, and reading, writing and understanding numbers up to 1,000,000.

Welcome to Year 6

I am so excited to be teaching Year 6 again this year and to work alongside the children as they strive to reach their full potential before embarking on their secondary school journey.

During the first few weeks, we will focus on our roles and responsibilities as a Year 6 class. We will celebrate our similarities and differences, consider how we share information about ourselves respectfully, and revisit what it means to work as a team and support every member of our class.

We will also think about how we are feeling as we return to school, embracing our final year of primary school and supporting one another through the 11+ process, while respecting and celebrating everyone's individual secondary school choices. Alongside this, we will set expectations and aspirations for the year ahead, ready to begin our Year 6 adventure together.

I have already spoken to the children about the roles they might like to be considered for, including Ambassador, House Captain and School Council. I am really looking forward to the year ahead—and I hope they are too!

We are also very lucky to have Mrs Dowse and Mrs McTiernan as part of the Year 6 team this year, supporting the children's learning and wellbeing throughout the school day.

Science

This term in Science, Year 6 will be exploring Living Things and Their Habitats, with a particular focus on how scientists classify living organisms. Pupils will investigate what makes something a living thing by identifying common observable characteristics before learning how living things are grouped according to their similarities and differences.

Throughout the unit, children will discover how to use and create classification (branching) keys to identify organisms and will compare bacteria, viruses and fungi, learning about the fascinating world of microorganisms. They will also explore the different ways scientists classify plants and find out about the work of Carl Linnaeus, whose classification system is still used today.

As part of their learning, pupils will consider how scientific ideas develop over time and how new discoveries can change our understanding of the natural world. Through practical investigations and enquiry-based learning, children will continue to develop their scientific thinking and curiosity about the diversity of life on Earth.

History

This term, Year 6 will explore World War Two, investigating Hitler's rise to power, why he became popular, the countries and people involved, and the significant events of the conflict. We will explore the Blitz, evacuation and how the war changed everyday life for civilians, including its impact on our local area. Pupils will investigate the experiences of Commonwealth soldiers, considering how stereotypes and attitudes towards race affected how different groups were treated. Using historical sources, children will ask how we know about the war and develop their understanding of tolerance, equality and British values through a historical context.



Year 6 Class Newsletter - Autumn 1 2026-2027

Art

In Art this term, Year 6 will explore how a 2D drawing can be transformed into a 3D sculpture.

Inspired by artists and designers, pupils will experiment with drawing, collage, graphic design and sculpture, using sketchbooks to develop and refine their ideas. They will explore techniques including scaling, proportion, negative space, shape, line and composition before creating their own 3D artwork.

This project will also link to our History learning about the Second World War, providing an opportunity to combine creativity with historical understanding.

MFL

French will be taught by Mrs Waites this term and in this unit pupils will learn the nouns and definite articles/determiners for 10 school subjects in the foreign language.

They will also learn how to conjugate the verb "to study", an introduction to time and an expansion of opinions. By the end of the unit pupils will have the knowledge and skills to talk about the subjects they like and dislike at school (along with a justification) and at what time/day they study various subjects. This will enable pupils to create more detailed and personalised responses by the end of the unit

Computing

This term, Year 6 will learn how to design, create and evaluate websites for a specific purpose and audience. Pupils will explore what makes a website effective, considering layout, visual appeal, content and ease of navigation before planning and building their own website using Google Sites.

Throughout the unit, children will develop their digital skills while learning about copyright and the fair use of media, making responsible choices when selecting images and other online content. They will also consider how users navigate between pages and how websites can communicate information clearly and effectively. The unit will culminate in pupils evaluating and refining their websites using feedback and their developing understanding of good web design.

Supporting Learning at Home

I am often asked by parents, "How can we help our children with their learning at home?" After many years of teaching Year 6, I have compiled a collection of useful resources, websites, activities and practical ideas into a handy Year 6 Home Learning Resource Guide.

The guide is designed to give you simple ways to support your child's learning and build their confidence at home, without adding unnecessary pressure.

Simply scan the QR code below to open the guide and explore the resources. I hope you find it useful!

Homework and Reading

We are currently reviewing how we approach homework at Rauceby, and I will share an update shortly once we have finalised our plans. In addition, there will be no physical reading diaries this year, as we are moving to an online system. Once the children have been added to the system, you will receive an email explaining how it works and what you need to do.

While we review and update our homework systems, please continue to aim to read with your child at least three times a week. We know that regular reading has significant benefits for children's vocabulary, comprehension, fluency and overall learning, so this remains an important part of supporting your child at home.

PSHE

This term, Year 6 will revisit key PSHE themes through our new cyclical curriculum, building on and deepening previous learning. Our six lessons will focus on relationships, wellbeing, family, friendships, identity and British Values. Pupils will explore empathy, respect and fairness in relationships, understand how lifestyle choices can support mental wellbeing, and consider how relationships and responsibilities change as they grow. As they prepare for secondary school, they will also explore building new friendships, celebrating difference and understanding how aspects of identity can overlap, before considering how British Values support fairness, democracy and community cohesion.

PE

This term, the children are excited to be improving their skills in Fitness and Dance. PE Kit Reminder

Please ensure that PE kit is in school **every day** and that all items are clearly labelled, including trainers. As a school that values outdoor learning, we are often use our PE kit on more than just our PE days!

For safety, earrings must not be worn during PE, long hair should be tied back, and fitness watches must be covered with a sweatband. As some PE sessions will take place outdoors, children should have appropriate clothing for all weather conditions, as well as a bag for muddy trainers.

RE

This term, Year 6 will explore belief, authority and the existence of God, building on their learning from previous years. Pupils will consider "How do people know who or what to believe?" and explore how different types of authority influence beliefs and actions.

Through a case study of St Thomas Aquinas, children will investigate philosophical arguments for the existence of God and consider why people reach different conclusions about belief. They will also explore stories from religious traditions and the lives of religious and non-religious inspirational people, considering how beliefs and values influence people's lives.

The unit encourages pupils to think critically, respectfully and independently about different interpretations and viewpoints.

