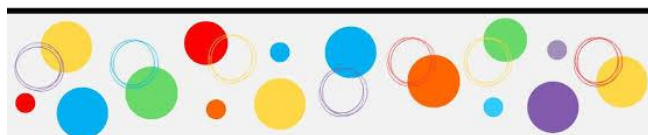




Reception



ALL ABOUT ME



The first term at school is always a very exciting term! The children have settled in extremely well and are getting used to the routines of the school day. This term we will be learning about the topic of 'All about me'. We will be learning about ourselves and our families, where we live and what our interests are.

We will be looking at how we have changed since we were babies, what we could do then and what we can do now. If possible, please could you send a baby photo of

your child into school. This will be returned to you at the end of the topic.

We will also be learning about the season of Autumn and spending lots of time learning outside. We love to learn outside, but our grass area is often wet. If you haven't already done so, could you please send your child with a named pair of wellies that can be kept at school.

It would also be helpful to keep a plastic carrier bag and a spare set of clothes, including underwear and socks or tights, in your child's bag just in case their clothes get wet at school.

After half-term we will be learning about the topic of Celebrations and Superheroes. We will learn about the important work of real-life superheroes such as doctors, firefighters and police.

We will be having PE lessons on a Tuesday and a Friday. We do not get changed for PE but children will be taking off their jumpers or cardigans. Please ensure that your child has appropriate footwear for PE and that everything is labelled with your child's name as it can be very tricky to sort out otherwise! Throughout the week, we will also take part in various physical development activities outside. These may include balancing activities, obstacle courses, ball games and much more.

We will soon be starting our phonics lessons which are lots of fun! Fred the frog will be helping the children to learn the letter sounds. They will then learn to blend the sounds together to begin to read words.

In the next couple of weeks, children will be given reading diaries to take home. As we begin teaching phonics, we will be sending home sound sheets in your child's diary to practise and a weekly poem to practise saying together at home too.

Every time your child has practised their sounds or poem five times at home, they will be entered into the reading raffle which is drawn every Friday in class. Once children can recognise the first set of sounds that have been taught, they may be given a sound blending book to practise at home. Please could you record in your child's reading diary when you have listened to your child read at home.

Alternatively, they may be given a picture book without words. Again, please could you write in the reading diary when you have read the book with your child. It doesn't need to be a lengthy comment. Can your child tell a story about what is happening / talk about the characters and what they may be saying or thinking?

In RE this half term, we will be learning about the story of Creation. We will also start to learn some simple prayers and take part in a weekly class collective worship time.

After half-term, we will learn about Advent and the story of the birth of Jesus. We have a class prayer bag which is sent home every Friday with a different child. Inside is a prayer bear, a class prayer book for you and your child to write a prayer together and lots of other resources which you can use for a family prayer time at home. We kindly ask that the prayer bag is returned to school on a Monday, ready to share with the rest of the class.

We use Dojo points in Reception. This is a point system where the children can earn points for good behaviour, work and effort in all areas. Children receive two dojo points each time they read or practise their sounds or poem at home. Once children reach 50 points they receive a prize.

We look forward to a fantastic first term at school!

Year 1

What a wonderful start the children have made to Year 1. They have settled in brilliantly and are already working hard and showing great enthusiasm for their learning.

This term we will be focusing on developing our phonics skills to support both reading and spelling, and to help with writing their own and dictated sentences. We will also be placing a strong emphasis on handwriting, ensuring that all letters are formed correctly and presented neatly. We greatly value your support at home. Reading with your child at least five times a week, practising key number facts and talking about their learning will help them to make excellent progress throughout the term. Please encourage your child to complete the weekly tasks and practise their spellings using the "Look, Cover, Write, Check" strategy in their reading diary.



In Maths, we will continue to work on number bonds to 10 and use ten frames and number lines to support our understanding of addition and subtraction. Later in the term, we will begin exploring 2D and 3D shapes and learn how to use a ruler to measure accurately in centimetres.

We have an exciting new History and Geography topic this term as we investigate how our local high street has changed over time. We will be learning about Madeley and exploring how shopping has evolved through the years. The children are already looking forward to our visit to Blists Hill, where they will discover how homes, schools and shops have changed since Victorian times. As part of our learning, we will explore how methods of payment have developed, from bartering goods to using coins and notes, and finally the digital payments we use today. If you are able to point out these different methods of payment when shopping with your child, it would be a great way to support their learning.

One of the highlights of our visit will be taking part in a Victorian classroom experience, where the children will enjoy a lesson similar to those attended by five and six-year-olds many years ago. We will also explore the shops and compare them with those we use today. During our visit, we will enjoy a picnic together and spend time observing the signs of autumn as we walk to and from the site.

In Computing, we will begin by learning how to use a PC and will develop our digital skills through a unit on digital painting. Outdoor Learning will continue to be an important part of our curriculum, with opportunities for shelter building, leaf rubbing, knot tying and outdoor cooking. The children will also learn how to behave safely around a campfire and develop confidence in the outdoor environment.

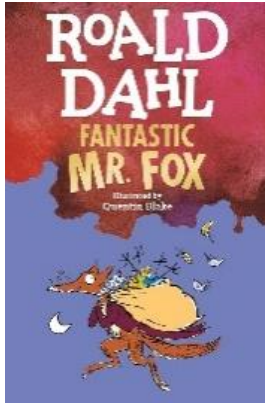
We are looking forward to a fantastic term as the children continue to grow in confidence and independence, embrace new challenges and enjoy their learning. Before we know it, we will also be looking forward to the excitement and celebrations of the Christmas season together!

Year 2

We are looking forward to a lively and productive autumn term with our Year 2 children. Across the curriculum, the children will be building important knowledge and skills, while also enjoying topics that are full of imagination, discovery and creativity.

In writing, the children will be learning to write clear sentences using phonics to spell words, along with capital letters and full stops. A big focus will also be making sure that their sentences make sense and are easy to read. Their writing will be inspired by exciting stories by Roald Dahl, including *The Enormous Crocodile* and *The Fantastic Mr Fox*. These fantastic books will give the children lots to think about, talk about and write about, helping them to develop their ideas in a fun and engaging way.

Writing Check list B
CAPITAL letters
Full stops
I
?
Commas (in a list ... and
Appropriate for personification The dog's barked Subordinating conjunctions When if that because
Coordinating conjunctions Or And but
Exclamation marks please red flower
Tense Past present
Conjunctions
Vocabulary choices
Types of sentences Statement Command Question Exclamation Check your spelling!



In reading, the class text will be *The Fantastic Mr Fox*. The children will be listening carefully, discussing the story and deepening their understanding through a range of activities. They will also practise retrieval skills, which means finding specific information in a text, and word reading, which will help them become more confident and fluent readers. We know the children will enjoy exploring the clever characters and exciting events in this brilliant story. Please read with your child at home each day and ensure that home reading

diaries are signed and returned to school daily. We ask that children read at home every day, as this daily practice is vital in helping them build fluency, confidence and a love of reading.

In maths, the children will be working with place value and numbers, with a particular focus on multiples of ten, adding and subtracting 10s, and working confidently with numbers to 100. This will help them strengthen their understanding of number patterns and build secure mathematical foundations. The children will be using practical resources, discussion and problem-solving to make their learning active and enjoyable.

In science, the children will begin by learning about habitats and what different animals and plants need in order to survive in their surroundings. They will then move on to choosing materials for a purpose, exploring which materials are best suited to different jobs. This will be a great chance for them to investigate, test ideas and ask curious questions about the world around them.

In history and geography, the children will learn about journeys made by explorers, including the life and work of Charles Darwin. They will also learn about continents and oceans, helping them to build a clearer understanding of the world. These topics will encourage the children to think about discovery, travel and the places that make up our planet.



In art, the children will begin the autumn term by painting using complementary colours, with the work of Andre Derain as their inspiration. Later in Autumn 2, they will move on to drawing, using Hans Holbein's work as their inspiration.

These projects will give the children the opportunity to explore different techniques, look carefully at artists' work and develop their own creative ideas.



We will also be taking part in outdoor learning every Thursday, so please make sure that children bring their wellies and a raincoat in every Thursday. This will help ensure they are prepared to learn and explore outside in all weathers.

In PE, the children will be developing their fundamental skills and dance. Physical activity is an important part of children's health, helping to support strong bodies, healthy hearts, coordination, concentration and overall wellbeing. PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

We are excited about the learning ahead and cannot wait to see the children grow in confidence across the term.

Year 3

We are thrilled to welcome everyone back for another exciting year of learning, discovery and adventure in Year 3! The children have settled in brilliantly and are already showing enthusiasm, curiosity and a positive attitude towards their learning. We have a fantastic term planned, packed with engaging activities and memorable experiences.

Our first Humanities topic takes us on a journey through time as we explore the fascinating period from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The children will discover how people lived, survived and adapted during these important periods in history. They will investigate ancient settlements, tools, homes and daily life, comparing them with modern life and considering how humans have changed and developed over thousands of years. Alongside this, our Science topic on rocks, soils and fossils will allow children to become real-life investigators as they examine different rock types, learn how fossils are formed and explore the important role that soil plays in our environment. The links between History and

Science make this an exciting and hands-on area of learning that children always enjoy.

In Mathematics, our focus this term will be developing a strong understanding of place value before moving on to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will use practical resources, reasoning activities and problem-solving challenges to help children build confidence and fluency. One of the most valuable things children can do at home is practise their times tables regularly. We encourage everyone to use their Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)

accounts to develop speed, accuracy and confidence. Regular practice really does make a huge difference.



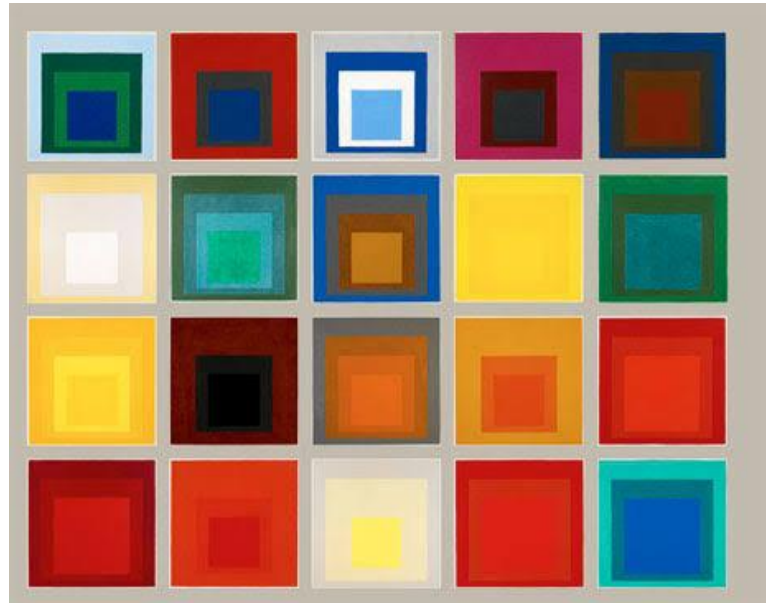
Our English lessons will be full of creativity and imagination. Children will develop their writing through a range of exciting genres, including story writing, diary entries and instructional texts. We will continue to build vocabulary, spelling knowledge and handwriting skills to help children become confident and independent writers. Our reading journey begins with the wonderful adventure story Nim's Island, which is always a favourite. Throughout the term, we will also explore a range of fascinating

non-fiction texts to develop research skills and deepen our understanding of the wider curriculum.

Reading remains one of the most important parts of children's learning. We encourage pupils to read every day at home and bring their reading diary into school each day. Reading regularly helps children improve their fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and confidence across all subjects. We love celebrating our keen readers, and children who read four or more times a week will be entered into our exciting Friday Reading Raffle, where they will have the chance to win a prize. Weekly spellings can also be found in reading diaries and should be practised regularly at home.

In PE, lessons will take place every Monday and Thursday afternoon. This year the children will develop a range of skills including teamwork, coordination, resilience and sportsmanship. Please ensure that children have their PE kit in school and bring a named water bottle every day, particularly on PE days.

Our wider curriculum offers many exciting opportunities for children to develop their creativity and practical skills. In Art, we will explore the work of famous artists Josef Albers and Michelangelo, learning about colour, pattern, design and artistic techniques. In Design and Technology, children will design and create their own Christmas stockings, developing their sewing and construction skills along the way.



We also have an exciting educational visit planned later in the term. The children will enjoy a magical Christmas immersive experience at a local National Trust property, bringing learning to life and creating special memories to finish the term.

As always, we appreciate your support in helping children arrive at school ready to learn each day. Please could we ask that all items of uniform, coats, PE kits, water bottles and lunchboxes are clearly named. This helps us quickly return any misplaced belongings to their owners and saves a great deal of time throughout the year.

Year 3 is a year filled with new challenges, growing independence and exciting opportunities. We are looking forward to watching the children flourish academically, socially and spiritually as the year progresses. Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make this a truly wonderful year of learning, achievement and success.

We can't wait to share all of the exciting adventures and achievements that lie ahead in Year 3!

Year 4

Class 4's topic, this term, is 'Rotten Romans'. During this term children will learn about ancient Rome and the rise and fall of the Roman Empire. There will be lots of opportunities to research and discuss the Roman Empire, including; Roman lifestyles, clothing, Roman soldiers and the British invasion. During the term we will also research the life of a gladiator: what they did and why; what weapons they used and where gladiator fights took place.



In geography, we will research where Italy is, with an expectation that children will then be able to locate Italy on world and European maps as well as identifying Rome. We will also look at the northern and southern hemispheres and the equator. In year 4, the children will be looking at some of the roads made by the Roman soldiers and

where they were built. The children will then have an opportunity to make their own road/path at school.

During our writing, we will learn about the legend of Romulus and Remus, creating our own Roman inspired plays and stories. We will also be writing explanation texts and information texts as well as letters using Roman artefacts, people and places.

In mathematics, we will be focusing on place value, looking at partitioning and recombining four-digit numbers and using column method to solve addition and subtraction calculations. We will be researching roman numerals and their legacy in today's society. Children will learn to convert between units of measures and multiply and divide by 10's, 100's and 1000's.



Our science topic this term is changes in state, we will be identifying the properties of solids and liquids and arranging different materials due to these properties. We will then look at changing states, measuring temperature and looking at the water cycle.

Guided reading will happen every day and will consist of a weekly task. Our class text is, 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe' and during this time there will be an opportunity for whole class readings texts, sequencing stories and events and identifying features of fictional and non-fiction texts. The children will receive a weekly slip to explain the text and tasks that they have completed during the week. As part of the children's weekly homework, they will be expected to read 5 times a week. There will be a weekly raffle for all of the children that have read 5 times or more at home.

Our PE sessions are Thursday and Friday, as the weather gets colder, please ensure your child has the correct clothing. The children have an exciting term to look forward to!

Year 5

What a brilliant start to the term we have had in Year 5! The children have returned to school with real enthusiasm, resilience and determination, and I have already been very impressed by the effort they are putting into their learning. It is shaping up to be a fantastic year.

This term, our main topic is the Ancient Maya. Our History and Geography lessons will all be linked to this fascinating civilisation. The Maya are remembered for many incredible achievements, including magnificent buildings, detailed artwork and beautiful objects made from jade. They also developed ideas that have had a lasting impact on the world. For example, it is believed that the Maya were one of the first civilisations to use the idea of zero.

Over the term, the children will explore where and when the Maya lived, what their daily life was like, what they believed and how their culture developed. They will also compare different aspects of life in the past with life today. A fun fact to share is that the Maya made a chocolate drink which was used in

special rituals and even as medicine. Their drink was very different from the chocolate we know today, as it was made using roasted cacao seeds, water, chillies and cornmeal. We will have a chocolate tasting day later in the term where the children will sample different percentages of cocoa in the chocolate, as well as some traditional central American food.

On a Wednesday afternoon we are welcoming our new guitar teacher, where we will learn how to play the guitar and embrace this wonderful instrument and perhaps inspire some future rockstars in the process.

In Computing, the children will build their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between devices. They will look at both small-scale and large-scale systems, and learn how these systems use input, output and process. The children will also explore how information is found on the World Wide Web. This will include learning how search engines work, how results are chosen and ranked, and what can affect the searches we make.

In Spanish, we will be focusing on conversation and family members. The children will develop both their vocabulary and their confidence in speaking. They will also learn more about Spanish-speaking culture, helping them to make links between language and the wider world.

We have also launched our own Autumn Bookfest this term. Each child will have the opportunity to read a wide range of books. After finishing each one, they will complete a short set of questions to check their understanding. For every book read, the children will add their name to our display wall, helping us to celebrate their reading journey. The more your child reads, the more they will improve across many areas of reading.

In school, we will be working on reading speed and stamina, which is why regular reading at home is so important. Please encourage your child to read for at least 15 minutes every day and to explain what they have read in their own words. A key focus this year will be developing stronger inference skills, helping the children to read between the lines and think more deeply about texts.

In Mathematics, we will be covering a wide range of areas, building on the children's prior knowledge and using formal written methods for all four operations. We will also be learning about shapes and their properties, angles, fractions, decimals and percentages. Knowing all times tables up to 12 x 12,

along with the related facts, is essential and will be an important part of home learning this term.

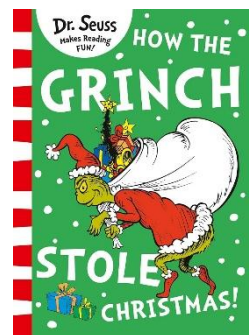
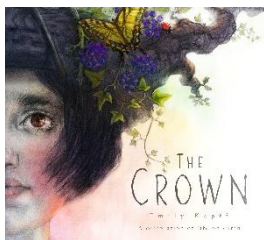
Year 5 P.E. takes place on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has the correct footwear on both days.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead and to making great progress together.

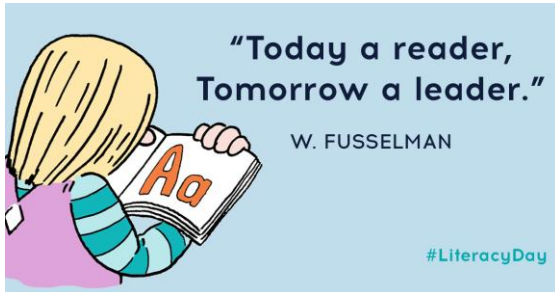
Year 6

WELCOME TO YEAR 6

We have an exciting term ahead in year 6. In English we will be using our knowledge of our Catholic Social Teaching Care for Creation to think about the legacy we leave and use this to write an information text and seasonal poetry. We will then move to looking at traditional tales before linking to our History work and the Christmas Truce, ending with instructional writing about How to Steal Christmas – taking our inspiration from the Grinch!



Reading is a really important part of Year 6 and the children are expected to read at least 5 times at home each week. They have made a great start by selecting a variety of different books from our Bookfest offering. Talking to your child about what they are reading and questions about the characters and key events really



help them to develop the reading comprehension skills that are the bedrock of learning in year 6. We ask that you help your child with setting aside time where they are able to read for a sustained period of time and across multiple pages. All home

reading should be recorded in your reading diary in black pen with the date, book title, pages read and a comment about what you have read such as what has happened or a key choice a character made. Reading in class sees us exploring how World War 1 has been depicted as a setting in both fiction and non-fiction texts and we will continue to build on our reading domain knowledge applying this to a variety of question types.

Our History topic on World War 1 inspires our writing further alongside our exploration of this key turning point in British History. Our geography will build on our current geographical knowledge and our understanding of cartography and its role in understanding the world we live in. We are looking forward to putting our History learning into context with a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum where we will have an opportunity to extend our sources work and also reflect on the legacy of War and the significance of remembrance.



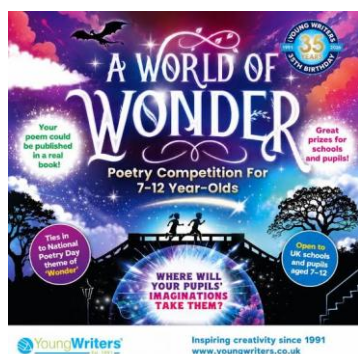
Through our artwork we will be exploring monochromatic colour, alongside drawing and developing our depiction of both abstract and realistic objects in context. We will develop further our colour knowledge. We will also aim to draw increasingly accurately proportioned faces alongside developing drawing using perspective and vanishing points.

Computing sees us looking at online safety, how people work collaboratively across the internet and the creation of webpages. The webpages are always a highlight for the children and really allows them to build on their existing knowledge and explore how decisions about layout, font and colour really impact their audience.



Our PE days this year are Tuesday and Wednesday. On these days it is important children are wearing appropriate footwear and long hair is tied back so that it is not covering their faces.

Our music will progress our ukulele knowledge and progress to a new instrument the guitar, these sessions will take place on a Wednesday and are always a wonderful opportunity to develop new skills and extend our solid musical foundations developed through our previous instrument lessons.



An opportunity we have in year 6 is the chance to become a published author. The first of the competitions has gone home and children are busy preparing poems based on the theme A Word of Wonder. These competitions offer a wonderful opportunity to become a published author and see your work in a book on our bookshelves!

We are really looking forward to all the exciting learning taking place in year 6 in the term ahead.