



# The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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## YEAR 6 TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER AUTUMN TERM 2024

Dear Parents,

The new school term has started really well, and I have been impressed with the speed with which the children have settled into Year 6.

Here are some important dates for your diary:

- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September: Visit to 'Crucial Crew' at St Albans Fire Station
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September: Mini Marathon
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm: Year 6 River Ver Society fieldwork trip
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October: Harvest Eucharist at the Cathedral
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October: beginning of half term
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November: Parents' Evenings delivered remotely – times to be confirmed

### Assessment

As you are aware, Year 6 is an important year, marking the end of Key Stage 2. Children will be assessed at the end of the year for Mathematics, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar and the proposed dates for these **Key Stage 2 National Curriculum assessments** or **SATs** will be from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Year 6 parents will receive the results from all of these assessments in the school reports, which will be sent home with children in July 2025.

In line with government levels, the children will be assessed to be:

- **Securely within Age Related Expectations (ARE)**
- **Working towards ARE**
- **Below ARE**
- **Above ARE**

Parent/teacher consultations take place in the middle of the Autumn and Spring Terms; this is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, behaviour and social and emotional development. An annual report to parents is produced in the summer term.

### Year 6 - SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES

For your information, I have outlined here some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 6:

#### English

- Fiction linked to PSHE – The Journey by Francesca Sanna

- Non-fiction linked to our term's topic on WWII and The Blitz – Letters From The Lighthouse by Emma Carroll
- Non-fiction explanation texts using varying forms of cohesion and formal tone.
- Writing for a range of different purposes and audiences including discussions centred around a fictional dilemma, newspaper reports and a longer narrative
- Punctuation, spelling and grammar

### **Mathematics**

As Mathematicians, we will be covering a variety of different units this term, alternating between number, the four operations and fractions:

- Number and place value (including 6-digit numbers, powers of 10 and negative numbers)
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (including factors, multiples, rules of divisibility, prime numbers, short division and long division)
- Fractions (including equivalents, simplifying, adding and subtracting, multi-step problems, multiplying, dividing, fractions of amounts)
- Mental Maths skills

### **Science**

As scientists, we will be learning about Living Things and Their Habitats and Electricity. In the former, they will explore conditions for life and the difference between living and non-living things, how to group organisms based on key characteristics, how to classify animals and plants, will look at microorganisms and at Carl Linnaeus and his system for classifying organisms. For the latter, children will learn about circuits and components and how to create complete circuits and the scientific symbols for these.

### **Music**

In music, the children will learn a series of fun, energising songs, rhythm games and canons that have been chosen to develop their performance confidence, singing ability, rhythmic confidence and inner beat, their inner ear and their ability to sing harmony and not be distracted by other musical lines. In the second half of the term, we will also work on musical activities linked to the Christmas celebration.

### **French**

As linguists, we will be using language that helps us to explore the country of France and to converse in French. To link with our History topic, we will also be touching on 'la deuxième guerre mondiale' and learning how to refer to key events and figures from the Second World War.

### **PE/Forest School**

For their physical activity this term the children will be engaging in Forest School on a Wednesday until half term. After half term this will change to outdoor PE, which will be hockey. Indoor PE will take place on a Friday and will be gymnastics and dance.

### **RE**

As people of faith, we will be examining the importance of Creation on the timeline of the 'big story' of the Bible. Taking account of the context, the children will suggest what Genesis 1 might mean, and compare their ideas with ways in which Christians interpret it, showing awareness of different interpretations. We will make clear connections between Genesis 1 and Christian belief about God as Creator and seek to understand why many Christians find science and faith go together. The children will weigh up how far the Genesis 1 creation narrative is in conflict, or is complementary, with a scientific account. After half term, we will switch our focus to exploring how Hindus express their faith and their obligations to the Hindu and wider communities.

## **Computing**

In computing, we will explore how data is transferred over the internet. We will focus on addressing, before moving on to the makeup and structure of data packets. After that, we will then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration by completing shared projects online and evaluating different methods of communication. Finally, we will learn how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

## **History**

As historians, we will be investigating ‘Why was winning the Battle of Britain in 1940 so important?’ This investigation enables pupils to examine a wide range of historical sources to help them gain some insight into the thinking of the leaders of Nazi Germany in May 1940 and the reasons why securing air superiority was so critical to them for any invasion plan to succeed. Children will also identify and reach a judgment about the relative importance of the factors that contributed to the United Kingdom winning the Battle of Britain.

## **Geography**

As geographers, we will be investigating the question “What is a river?” and investigating how the River Axe changes from source to mouth and why river estuaries are such important places for wildlife. We are also planning a fieldwork trip to the River Ver.

## **Art & D&T**

As artists, the children will explore creative photographic techniques, creating new images through photomontage, understanding photorealistic self-portraits, and applying digital photography to art design, enhancing their skills in composition and editing. As designers, they will be designing and making ‘make do and mend’ waistcoats, practising different types of stitches and needlework techniques.

## **You can help and support us by:**

1. Regularly checking your child’s homework to monitor that all homework has been completed and submitted on time and assisting with research as appropriate.
2. Testing weekly spellings/spelling rules on a regular basis.
3. Listening to your child read each evening (or as often as possible) and questioning them on what they have read. It is imperative that children are reading a range of different text types and are reading for at least 20 minutes per day.

Homework will be set on a Friday, due in the following Wednesday, with additional tasks being set as appropriate. English homework for the Autumn term will focus mainly on the children’s reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar, with occasional longer writing pieces set. Maths homework will reflect current learning in the class.

Your children should continue to come to school in P.E. kits on Wednesdays and Fridays; it is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a PE session, please can you ensure that a note is provided.

## **Who will be working with your children this term?**

This year, in addition to me teaching the children full-time, we will also be benefitting from the support of Mrs Harley, who will be working with the children both in small groups and on a one-to-one basis on Mondays and Wednesdays. Mr Mosley will be teaching Music on Tuesdays and qualified sports coaches from Non-Stop Action will be working with Year 6 on Friday afternoons to teach PE. Mrs Harley will also be teaching Year 6 for both Forest School/PE and French on a Wednesday afternoon.

Our class Teaching Assistant, Mrs Simpkin, will be providing support in class each morning and some afternoons, with Mrs Harris also supporting in class in the afternoons.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Huntley**  
**Head of KS2, Year 6 Class Teacher**