



## Year 6 Spring Term 2026 Newsletter

### **Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year for 2026!**

We do hope the children enjoyed their holiday and feel rested and energised ready for the spring term ahead! This term is packed full of learning alongside lots of exciting events. Please do keep a careful look out for emails and letters sent home as these will offer lots more information about: STEM day, Houses of Parliament visit, Safer Internet Day, Neurodiversity afternoon, Science week and World Book Day. We will also have a PTA school disco before half term.

A reminder that Mrs Clark teaches your children from Tuesday – Friday and Mrs Andrews teaches on Mondays. Mrs Whiteley will continue to offer teaching support every morning and Mrs Giles also provides regular afternoon slots for group teaching. We welcome Miss Northern to our team this term, who will provide regular one-to-one support for specific children.

From this Friday, the whole class will be split into small groups on Friday mornings, known as our booster group sessions, which will support children for the SATs papers. Children will be made aware of areas of learning that are pertinent to them each week.

### **Ashwell Learning Journey Topic**

Our class topic this term will be based on the Amazing Americas, where the children will learn about the continents, countries and cities that make up this fascinating part of the world.

In particular, we will be exploring the intriguing ancient civilisation of the Mayans. Within this fascinating topic, we will learn who these people were and about their origins. We will explore their religions and gods, their daily lives and habits, as well as understanding how this civilisation impacted so significantly on the number system of today. We will also explore and create some intricate artwork inspired by the Mayans.

In Spring 2 we will explore, in depth, the landscapes and climates that make up these regions and compare these to our local and national landscapes and climates.

### **English**

Our English work this term will involve writing for purpose based upon the following texts: *Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastic World Around You* by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi, *Blackberry Blue and other fairy tales* by Jamila Gavin and Richard Collingridge, and *Survivors* by David Long and Kerry Hyndman.

The children will learn how to write a balanced argument, a narrative with dialogue, a page for an encyclopaedia about a chosen creature, and a biography. Grammar and spelling lessons are integrated in detail into each unit.


We will continue to investigate weekly spelling patterns – see weekly posts on Google classroom.

### **Mathematics**

We will begin the spring term investigating 2D and 3D shape and their properties, including further study based on perimeter and area. We will also revise our learning about angles, reflection and transition. In the first half of term, we will explore in-depth written calculation methods linked to all four operations, including regular problem solving, and then introduce the children to algebra. Then we will recap division methods and multiplying and dividing fractions.

In the second half of term, we will cover ratio and proportion, volume, measures, statistics. The end of term will see further mock tests in preparation for SATs (three maths papers as well as a reading paper, grammar and spelling papers). You will be kept informed of their progress.

Children will continue to receive weekly arithmetic tests. Misconceptions are quickly identified, in order to improve scores week on week.



### Other Core Subjects

**Science:** during the first half-term, we will begin our studies looking at 'Living things and their habitats'. We will learn why particular animals are suited to their environments and how to sort and classify animals according to their characteristics. The contributions made by scientists in animal classification and the significance of classification will also be taught. In the second half of term, we will learn about evolution and inheritance, exploring theories of evolution and investigating the inheritance of particular characteristics and traits.

**Computing:** throughout the spring term we will be continuing our work on the importance of e-safety, including use of the internet and smart devices. Computing lessons will cover the impact and usage of AI, Big Data (how barcodes, QR codes and RFID work and are scanned, how their data is gathered and analysed in real time using spreadsheets, and how big data can be used to solve problems and improve efficiency), and programming using Python.

**PE:** PE is on Monday and Thursday afternoons as before. On Mondays with Mrs Andrews, children will have outdoor adventure activities using our orienteering resources. On Thursdays, PE is led by the Premier Sports coach and will consist of dance and football.

**Design and Technology:** the children will learn how to design, build, test and improve playground structures by applying knowledge of materials and construction, evaluating design effectiveness, and refining ideas through measurement.

**PSHCE:** this term's unit on Health and Wellbeing will focus on how to look after physical and mental wellbeing, how technology can impact health, how to develop resilience, how changes to the body can indicate illness, and also understand how habits can be good or bad for health.

**RE:** with our focus still on the religions of Christianity and Judaism, we will learn about pilgrimage, prayer, worship and reflection, symbols and actions, and identity and belonging.

**French:** we will learn French phrases relating to 'the weekend' and 'planets' this term.

**Music:** we will study film music in the first half of term and themes and variations in the second.

**Art:** this term will look at drawing, focusing on Mayan art, chiaroscuro, graffiti, guerilla art, and murals. We will learn more about significant artists including Diego Rivera, Leonardo da Vinci, Pablo Picasso and Banksy.

### Messages

PE kits must be in school on Mondays and Thursdays, plus any days needed for after school clubs. Kit must include indoor and outdoor clothes and outdoor trainers (different to those they wear to school please).

In the mornings, Year 6 start their learning with a morning activity between 8:40 and 9:00am. Please can you help your child to arrive on time in the mornings so they are ready to work from 8:40am prompt.

Finally, please can we remind you to check in on Google Classroom each week to read the Peek at the Week, where you will find information about the week, spellings and any reminders for you and your child, including home learning and deadlines. We will also post other learning opportunities regularly on google classroom such as Kahoot quizzes or extra maths, grammar or spelling activities.

We look forward to teaching your children this term and seeing you at parents' evenings during the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you wish to pass on messages or speak to Mrs Clark or Mrs Andrews.

Best wishes,

**Mrs Clark, Mrs Andrews and Mrs Whiteley**