



## Year 6 Curriculum overview – Autumn Term 2021

### English

In English we will be focusing on our class reader – Holes – which will act as a stimulus for various types of fiction and non-fiction writing, for example:

- Non-chronological reports
- First person accounts
- Writing in character
- Setting descriptions
- Writing for drama
- Building suspense
- Descriptive writing
- Dilemma writing

We will also be looking at another text in Autumn 2 – Skellig. Again, this will act as a stimulus for various types of writing that the children will produce.

In addition to our class reader lessons, children will have one grammar, punctuation and spelling lesson – on a Monday.

English homework will be set on a Monday afternoon to be returned the following Friday.

### Maths

This year, we will continue to use the Power Maths scheme to engage children in their maths learning. Maths lessons will take place at the beginning of the day between 9:20 and 10:20am. The units we will be covering this autumn term are as follows:

- 1) Place value up to 10,000,000
- 2) Four operations (1)
- 3) Four operations (2)
- 4) Fractions (1)
- 5) Fractions (2)
- 6) Geometry – position and direction.

Maths homework this half term will be set on century, and will mirror the learning that the children have been doing in the classroom. Homework will be set on Wednesday to be returned the following Wednesday.

### Reading

Children will have 4 reading lessons per week. On a Monday, we will be focusing on boosting our vocabulary, and the following 3 lessons will be based around one of our reading dog skills of inference, prediction, sequencing, summarising, retrieval and authorial choice. Reading lessons will often be based around our science or geography topic – which will be animals including humans and rivers for the Autumn term.

Reading diaries will be checked weekly on a Monday for 3 comments. As well as this, books will be allocated on your child's bug club account that are aligned to their reading ability. We would encourage children to access this daily.

### Religious Education

During the Autumn term, we will be using the Worcester Syllabus to explore the question 'Why do Hindus try to be good?'

We will be using this root question to stimulate religious, philosophical and ethical debates, whilst gaining a deeper understanding of the Hindu religion.

## History

This term in history we will be starting an exciting new local history topic, looking at the impact of the industrial revolution on The Black Country. We will have a specific focus on women in The Black Country, focusing especially on Mary Macarthur and the role that she played in establishing trade unions and a minimum wage. From this, we will then start to look at and research other notable women from our local area.

## Art and Design

This Autumn, in art we will be creating a memory box based on images that we will be sketching, drawing and painting. We will be asking the children to bring in five objects that mean a lot to them, and we will be drawing still life images to curate our own memory boxes. To inspire our work, we will be looking at artists such as Paul Cezanne, Jaromir Funke, Ibere Camargo and Ben Nicholson. Children will have the opportunity to reflect and improve on their own creations, and will have the opportunity to use exciting new medium such as negative imagery and charcoal. Eventually, we will be sticking our different images to a cube to create our final 'memory box' piece.

## Science

In science, we will be looking at our 'animals including humans' topic, through investigating a number of different bodily features and contributing factors to this. We will be exploring exciting topics such as the effects of drugs, alcohol and smoking on the human body, as well as investigating the digestive and circulatory systems. We will also be proposing solutions as to how we can best look after our bodies in terms of diet and exercise.

To support this, we will be analysing lots of different texts related to science in our reading unit. Looking at topics such as coronary heart disease, and first-person accounts from people who have given up smoking.



## Physical Education

**Outdoor:** We will be following the PE hub unit to cover our core sport of netball before half term. In Autumn 2, we will move onto our football unit. We will also be providing exciting opportunities for children to get involved in extra-curricular clubs.

**Indoor:** We will be covering our gymnastics unit before half term, before moving onto a dance unit in Autumn 2.

## French

This term in French we will be building upon our prior knowledge to cover the following objectives, using Rigolo:

- To say the days of the week with an activity
- To say what you don't do
- To say what you like and dislike
- To describe clothes
- To ask for clothes
- To say numbers to 100

We will be using rigolo to practice speaking and listening, as well as recording written conversations.

## Computing

In computing during the first half term, we will be developing our knowledge and understanding of online safety by asking the question 'Am I SMART?' and 'How can I stay safe online?'. We will be looking at lots of different concepts such as leaving a digital footprint, investigating concepts such as bullying, protecting ourselves via passwords and also staying safe online by recognising the dangers of things such as scams and phishing emails.

In Autumn 2, one class will be using their computing knowledge to follow complex algorithms to create lego robots. When the robots have been built, children will be familiarising themselves with different software and code systems to personalise and change their robots for a purpose. The other class will be putting their coding skills to the test, following script to create a game using the coding program 'Scratch'. Classes will swap activities in the new year, so that all children get the opportunity to cover both activities.

## Geography

During the Autumn term, our geography topic will see us investigate 'raging rivers'. We will be looking at the definition of a river, how they are formed and different rivers in the UK and our local area. This exciting field study will give our children the opportunity to collect, collate and interpret data, and create graphs to demonstrate their findings. We will also investigate how rivers can be used, and think deeply about the positive and negative effects that rivers can have on the local area around them.

## Design Technology

This Autumn in DT we will be investigating preparing and cooking an exciting, healthy recipe in our topic entitled 'come dine with me' – look forward to some tasty treats coming home!

We will also be looking at planning, designing and creating our own circuit to create our own game, linking in nicely to our Autumn 2 topic of electricity. Think 'steady hand game' – make sure you don't slip!

St James's  
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## Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (including Relationships Education)

In PSHE in the autumn term, we are investigating the question 'how do we keep healthy as we grow?'. We will be looking at a variety of contributing factors to staying healthy, demonstrating the children the difference between physical and mental health. We will be facilitating discussion on fascinating topics such as:

- The effects of sleep on our physical and mental health
- What are the consequences of my choices?
- How can positive thinking help me?
- What substances can do me harm?

This unit aims to display to children that they have control over their own choices, and that they have the capacity to take responsibility for their own wellbeing.