



# Year 6 Curriculum Overview Spring 1

This is an overview of what we will be learning in Year 6 this half term. You can find further curriculum information on the school website.

## English

### Reading



**In Year 6 English, children will read *Skellig* by David Almond,** The story centres around a 10-year old boy named Michael and the unique discovery he stumbles upon after entering a forbidden garage in his garden. While reading, children develop key skills:

- **Retrieval:** finding facts and details in the text
- **Prediction:** thinking about what might happen next
- **Summary:** identifying the main events
- **Inference and deduction:** working out characters' feelings and motives from clues
- **Explanation:** discussing themes and author's choices

### Writing

This term, Year 6 will develop their writing through a range of purposeful tasks. They will begin by writing a narrative inspired by *Oliver Twist*, using description, atmosphere, and clear plot structure. Next, they will create a formal police report based on *The Lion and Albert*, focusing on accuracy, direct and reported speech, and clear organisation. Pupils will also study the poem itself, exploring humour, performance, and poetic features. Throughout the term, children will strengthen their understanding of grammar, including formal language, hyphens, ellipses, expanded noun phrases, commas, semi-colons in lists, multiclaused sentences, perfect verb forms, and prepositional phrases. Regular practice and editing will help them apply these skills confidently across all writing tasks

### Spelling

Revision of key spelling patterns, suffixes, homophones, and Year 5/6 statutory words. Focus on proofreading and using dictionaries.

## Maths



This half term, Year 6 will study Ratio, Algebra, and Decimals using White Rose Maths Version 3. Pupils will develop understanding of ratio and proportion, solve problems involving scaling, and explore algebraic expressions and simple equations. They will consolidate decimal knowledge, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and apply these skills in problem-solving contexts. Activities will focus on reasoning, fluency, and mathematical thinking to build confidence and prepare for further study.

## RE



Year 6 will follow Branch 3: Galilee to Jerusalem from the RED Directory. Pupils will explore Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem, focusing on his teachings, miracles, and the growing understanding of his mission. Children will reflect on key events such as the calling of the disciples, parables, and the raising of Lazarus, considering how these reveal God's plan of salvation. Pupils will also examine the significance of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, including his entry into the city and the events of Holy Week. Through discussion, scripture study, and reflective activities, pupils will deepen their understanding of faith, discipleship, and the importance of following God's call in their own lives.

## Science



Year 6 pupils will explore evolution and inheritance. They will learn how organisms have changed over time and how traits are passed from one generation to the next, distinguishing between inherited and environmental characteristics. Pupils will investigate variation within species and study how adaptations help plants, animals, and humans survive in different habitats. They will also explore the work of scientists such as Charles Darwin and understand how careful observation supports scientific theories. Throughout the unit, pupils will develop key scientific skills, including observing, recording, classifying, and interpreting data. By the end of the term, they will understand evolution as a gradual process, the role of inheritance, and how adaptations enable survival in changing environments.

## Humanities



This term, Year 6 will study South America, exploring its physical and human geography. Pupils will identify key map features, locate countries, and examine biomes, focusing on the Amazon Rainforest, its biodiversity, and global importance. They will study the climate across the continent and the effects of climate change on indigenous peoples.

The unit will also cover human geography, including trade, industry, population, and urban areas, with a focus on Brazil. Pupils will explore how people interact with the environment and the challenges this creates. Through map work, research, and case studies, they will develop geographical skills such as describing, comparing, and interpreting data. By the end of the unit, pupils will understand the human and physical features of South America and how people, place, and environment are connected.

## PHSE/ RSE



In this unit, children will explore how Catholic Social Teaching guides us in responding to real-life issues and discover practical ways they can share God's love within their school and wider community. They will also learn about the world of work, including how people apply for jobs, what influences career choices, and how stereotypes can limit people's ambitions. Children will begin thinking about different types of jobs and their own future aspirations. In the "Money and Me" strand, children will learn about different payment methods, the importance of budgeting and saving, and how our needs and values influence the way we use money. They will also reflect on fairness, responsibility, and how God calls us to be good stewards of the resources we are given.

## Music



This term, Year 6 will study *A Friday Afternoons* by Benjamin Britten. Pupils will listen and appraise, describing the song's style, structure, voices, and instruments, as well as its musical dimensions, mood, and story. They will explore musical activities using chime bars and recorders, learning to play and read notes, improvise with given note patterns, and compose short pieces. Pupils will practice copying back, inventing rhythmic and melodic patterns, and learning musical phrases. Singing and rapping in unison and two parts will develop ensemble skills. During perform and share, pupils will make decisions about their performances, which may include improvisations, instrumental pieces, or compositions, and will record and appraise their work to reflect on progress and musical understanding.

## Computing



In this unit, children will learn what artificial intelligence (AI) is, how it works, and how it is used in everyday life. They will explore how AI understands and responds to text and image prompts, and they will practise creating and improving their own prompts to get the best results. Pupils will also discover how AI can generate simple code and support early web design, as well as how it can help them start and plan creative projects. Throughout the unit, they will learn about the ethical issues surrounding AI and take part in discussions about whether AI could replace certain human jobs, developing well-reasoned and thoughtful arguments.

## Art/D&T



This term, Year 6 will explore sculpture and 3D art through the *Making Memories* unit from Kapow. Pupils will create expressive sculptures that represent personal memories, experimenting with a variety of materials and techniques. They will develop skills in planning, constructing, and refining their 3D artworks, making deliberate artistic decisions throughout the creative process. Children will evaluate their own work and that of their peers, reflecting on materials, techniques, and design choices. By the end of the unit, pupils will have gained confidence in working in three dimensions, expressing ideas visually, and presenting meaningful, well-considered sculptures that communicate personal experiences.

## PE



Children will take part in a Skittleball unit where they develop key skills such as throwing, catching, controlling the ball, and aiming accurately to knock over skittles. They will learn how to use space effectively, work as part of a team, and apply simple attacking and defending strategies during small-sided and full games. Throughout the unit, children will learn the basic rules of Skittleball, practise good sportsmanship. We focus is on improving coordination, communication, teamwork, and understanding of how to apply skills in game scenarios while encouraging children to reflect on their progress.

## Spanish



This term, Year 6 will learn key Spanish language skills. Pupils will study **infinitive verbs** and express likes and dislikes using *me gusta + infinitive* and *me gusta(n) + definite article + noun* for food and drink. They will describe **friends and family**, asking and answering questions in the first, second, and third person singular. Activities will develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, helping pupils communicate confidently in everyday situations.