

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter 2026 – Autumn Term 1

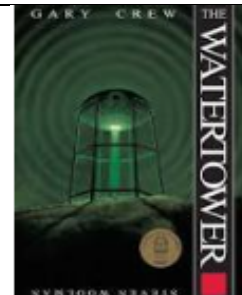
Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! Here is an update on our Year 6 curriculum this half term. We hope it will be useful in helping you to support your child with their learning at home.

Please ensure that your child completes **all homework (including Purple Mash)** as this will help them to reinforce their learning. It is important that homework is brought back into school on **Monday** as we often use homework as a starting point in many of our lessons throughout the week.

In English, we will base our first writing outcome around a short suspense video clip from **Great Expectations**. We will weave this suspense focus into the text '**The Watertower**' by Gary Crew. We will also explore how the author uses suspense techniques to create atmosphere. The children will have an opportunity to develop and use **suspense techniques** through writing a **narrative**. Further writing outcomes will include **short incidental writing** opportunities as well as **diary writing**.

Your child will take a **reading book** home each week. Finding time to read together with your child and talk about the book will greatly help their **reading development**. Please ensure that **reading records** are **signed** each week when your child has read to you.



Great Expectations



Mathematics - We will begin this term with **place value**.

This will include:

- reading, writing, comparing and ordering numbers
- rounding numbers
- using negative numbers in context

We will also focus on developing mental skills through **arithmetic**.

It is really important that your child knows their **times tables up to 12 x 12** and can relate them to **division facts**. Please support your child with this at home as it will benefit their learning. Also, encourage your child to continue regularly using **TT Rock Stars** as this is a fantastic resource. **Top Marks** and **BBC Bitesize** also have numerous activities to reinforce our maths topics.



History – We will be studying World War Two and the impact on family life.

Composite question: How did family life change during World War Two?

Component 1: Why was it called a 'World' war?

Component 2: What was the Blitz and how did it impact on family life?

Component 3: What was rationing and how did it impact on family life?

Component 4: What was the role of women in the war?

Component 5: How did the end of the war impact on family life?

Science – Living things and their habitats.

The children will be taught to:

- describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals
- give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

We will also learn about pioneers of science who have made a major impact to the world of science.

PE will be on **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child wears their full PE kit on these days along with their school jumper. It is important that your child has **both indoor and outdoor PE footwear** at all times (pumps and trainers). Our focus for PE will be Tag Rugby.

Computing we will learn about computing systems, networks, the history of computers, code-breaking and password hacking.

PSHE/Wellbeing we will be focusing on:

- How we use the internet in a healthy way.
- How we recognise our feelings and emotions.
- Puberty.

In **RE**, we will explore the question: **How might pilgrimage transform people's lives?**

The Music Service is providing a music teacher to support us in learning how to play the Ukulele.

In Art we will be developing our drawing skills.

We will focus on:

- The effects that different shades of pencils can produce.
- Why specific drawing techniques have been chosen.

We shall base our drawing around the images of The Watertower and Great Expectations.

Internet Safety: It is vital that your child is safe online at home. In school, we will be focusing on E-safety in ICT. At home you can protect your child by setting parental restrictions and talking to your child about apps that are not safe. **Tik tok, snap chat, Instagram and Whatsapp are all 13+ and should not be used by Primary aged children.**

Here is a link to a guide for setting parental controls at home - <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controls-offered-your-home-internet-provider>

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support - Year 6 team.