



345

Upper Key Stage 2 Topic Newsletter

Autumn 1 2025

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This Term...

Year 5 Curriculum

Year 6 Curriculum

History – Dynamic Dynasties

In History, the children will learn about periods of ancient Chinese history. They will explore a timeline of the first five Chinese dynasties. They will investigate the history of the Bronze Age Shang Dynasty and explore evidence found in the ancient city of Yin.

History - Maafa

In History, the children will learn about Ancient African Kingdoms, the development of the transatlantic slave trade, Britain's role in the slave trade and the causes and consequences of the abolition of the slave trade and slavery.

Science – Forces and mechanisms

In Science, the children will learn about the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction, with children exploring their effects. They learn about mechanisms, their uses and how they allow a smaller effort to have a greater effect.

Science – Circulatory system

In Science, the children will learn about the transport role of the human circulatory system, its main parts and their primary functions. They learn about healthy lifestyle choices and the effects of harmful substances on the body.

Geography – Investigating our world

In Geography, the children will learn to use Ordnance Survey maps and six figure grid references. They'll also learn about time zones, climate zones and vegetation belts.

Geography - Maafa

In Geography, the children will learn about Africa – the countries which make up Africa, settlements, population, climate and physical features.

PE

Year 5 – Monday and Thursday
Year 6 – Tuesday and Friday

Art – Trailblazers, barrier breakers

In Art, the children will learn about significant black artists and their work. They will have opportunities to analyse and create artwork inspired by them.

Thought of the term...



Be your best.

Aspiration and Courage

InMAT value: Inspiration

How I can help my child at home.

Maths

In Term 1, Year 5 will learn about place value and addition and subtraction. Year 6 will learn about place value and the four operations.

Activities which support this:

Partitioning numbers, adding and subtracting 4 digit numbers and practising times table recall to support multiplication and division methods.

English

In Term 1, Year 5 will be writing fantasy stories and then rhyming poetry. Year 6 will be writing rap based poetry and stories with ghosts and suspense.

Activities which support this:

Read a range of writing of the genres to be studied, discuss features of these types of writing. Create a bank of persuasive words/phrases.

Dates for the diary.

3rd September – Children return to school.

25th September – Year 4 residential meeting in the hall – 6pm

23rd October – Friend's Halloween Disco.

Year 1- 3 5pm – 6pm

Year 4-6 6.15pm- 7.15pm

24th October – Friend's Pumpkin carving competition.

24th October – Children finish for half term.

Reading Recommendations – Year 5



Reading Recommendations – Year 6

