Year 6 Autumn 2 2026-27

# How has the rise and fall of the British Empire affected modern life in Britain?




## Welcome back to Year 6!

This half term, we continue our journey through the nineteenth century, to learn about the pivotal Victorian period and how it has had lasting effects on modern life, with a specific focus on the role of the British Empire in shaping modern society.

## English

A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens

In our Year 6 *A Christmas Carol* unit, children will explore the themes of kindness, generosity, and helping those less fortunate. In guided reading they will study how Scrooge changes throughout the story and what this teaches us about empathy and compassion. Pupils will identify the features of persuasive letters and then use these techniques to write their own heartfelt letters to Mr Scrooge, encouraging him to embrace kindness, generosity, and the true spirit of Christmas.

Moth by Isabel Thomas

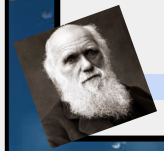
Children will identify the features of narrative poetry based on animal poems and be inspired by the text Moth (by Isabel Thomas) to write their own.

Transcription:

Pupils will have three sessions a week that encompasses spelling, punctuation, grammar and handwriting. These sessions will work to help pupils learning in these areas to develop and become more automatic with repeated exposure so the skills become embedded.

## Science: Evolution and Inheritance

Year 6 will learn:



- That all living things are made of cells, and that DNA makes us individual
- To understand which characteristics can be inherited and which are acquired
- About the work of evolutionary pioneers including Charles Darwin and Mary Anning
- That species change over time due to natural selection and adaptation to their environment

## Maths

Fractions

We will begin by reviewing the key elements encountered so far e.g. identifying equivalent fractions, finding common denominators, simplifying fractions. We will then extend this to include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions. Finally the children will start to consider problems which involve finding fraction of amounts.

Arithmetic skills

Children will be developing their arithmetic skills; completing weekly arithmetic challenges to help build their confidence and stamina.

## History and Geography

We will continue our study of **The Victorians** this half-term but with a focus on the rise and fall of the British Empire, and its lasting effects on modern life in Britain.

Children will learn about the location of countries that were part of the Empire at its height, understand why it was known as 'the Empire on which the sun never set', and debate the reasons behind its eventual collapse and how this changed the course of British history..



## Computing

IT- Computing Systems and Networks / Spreadsheets
In this unit learners explore how data is transferred over the internet. This unit also introduces pupils to spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set.

## Home Learning

**Reading and spelling:** Your child should read and learn spellings every night (from the Year 3 / 4 or 5 / 6 spelling lists), spending at least 15 minutes on each of these. Reading books are allocated as and when your child has completed one. Children should also have an additional book of their choice , either from the classroom selection or from home.

### Maths and English homework

As we are getting ready for high school, children are expected to be independent and organised with homework. Maths homework will be set on MyMaths. Reading comprehension and grammar/spelling homework will be set weekly in homework booklets on Fridays. All homework runs Friday to Friday. There will be no weekly spelling lists to learn as we will be learning spellings in our transcription lessons, but some spellings will be brought home to learn as the result of teaching these lessons and children will be frequently be tested on the spelling of KS2 words.

## PSHE

We will focus on recognising emotions in ourselves and others, and knowing how to employ strategies to regulate ourselves in times of stress, overwhelm and nervousness. We will also consider healthy and unhealthy relationships, and how to keep ourselves safe in our friendships.

### Music

Year 6 children are taught Music by our Music Specialist Teacher, Mrs Ogden. They will create their own Pop style compositions. All of KS2 take part in Singing Worship every week.



## MFL/French

**J'habite là**
The îles francophones of the Americas provide inspiration for describing where we live..

### Useful Websites:

https://www.letterjoin.co.uk *(For resources to practise handwriting at home User name: light; Password: shine)*
https://www.mymaths.co.uk *(For Maths online homework)*
*https://ttrockstars.com/ For times table fluency*

### Dates for your diary (keep an eye on the flyer for more dates)

Friday 13th November - Children in Need Day
Friday 20th November Odd Socks Day - wear odd socks to celebrate individuality.
Wednesday 2nd December - Christmas dinner and jumper day.
Wednesday 9th December - PTFA Christmas Fair after school
W.C. 14th Dec - Christmas Craft Morning/Afternoon - Further information to follow
Tues 15th December - A Christmas Carol at Hexham Theatre
Wednesday 16th December KS2 Circus Skills Day
Thursday 17th December - Class Christmas Party Afternoon
Fri 18th December - School closes for Christmas 1.30pm

## DT

Children will study the features of a Victorian style sampler. They will experiment with a range of sewing stitches and design, make and evaluate their own Victorian sampler with a Christmas theme.

## PE

Year 6 will continue their sessions with Mr Smith and the NUF.



## Worship and RE

This half term we will explore the Big Question: **How does faith help when life gets hard?**
**In our Worship** this half term, we will be focusing on:
Fire Safety, Remembrance, Anti-Bullying, Giving as well as receiving, Advent, Christmas and Christmas around the world.

### Our Year 6 Staff:

**Mrs Huitson, Miss Henderson & Mrs Fargher are the class teachers in Year 6.**
**Madame Humes** will teach MFL/French to both Year 6 classes.
PE is taught by **Mr Smith** and NUF and Music will be taught by **Mrs Ogden.**
**Mrs Glendinning and Mrs Harrison** are our Teaching Assistants in Year 6.
*If you have any questions,please contact us via your child's reading record or by telephoning/emailing our administration team. Staff will not respond to dojo messages.*

## Things to remember:




Reading Record/Planner.
Please bring a clear, plastic, named water bottle every day.
Bring your reading record every day.
PE days are Thursday and Friday - Please wear your PE kit to school on this day.

Parents/carers should sign the school reading record every week. Please listen to your child read as often as you can and enter a comment in the reading record at least once per week.