

Year 6, Spring term 1 Overview

Reading and Writing:

This term in Reading, our focus will shift toward **SATs preparation**. Using the information from our last two SATs mock weeks, we've identified key areas the class needs to strengthen. We will be working in short, focused bursts to develop the specific skills needed for success in the reading papers—such as text marking, inference, and retrieval. **Every Friday, pupils will take part in a 'Big Read'**. They'll work with an exam-style text and questions to build reading stamina and confidence with SATs-style tasks.

In Writing, we are exploring the theme of protest and activism, with a key focus on the Suffragettes.

The unit will build toward a final piece of campaign writing, where pupils will apply the techniques and knowledge they've learned to create a persuasive and impactful campaign text.

Science: Light

Pupils will learn how light travels, how we see objects, and why shadows form.

They'll study the structure of the eye and discover how we perceive different colours. The unit also introduces visual impairments, helping pupils understand how some people use tools such as glasses, guide dogs or Braille to support their vision.

Toward the end of the unit, pupils will investigate how light reflects off surfaces and how reflections can be used in everyday objects such as mirrors and periscopes.

In **Maths**, we are focusing on a series of shorter units this half term.

We'll start by **converting units**, helping pupils become confident with switching between measures such as grams and kilograms or millilitres and litres. We will then move on to **ratio**, where pupils will learn how to compare quantities and solve problems using proportional reasoning. To finish the half term, we'll explore **algebra**, introducing pupils to simple equations and the use of symbols to represent unknown values.

Students will continue with **weekly SATs arithmetic practice** on two afternoons each week and a full **practice paper every Friday**.

OTHER SUBJECTS

Geography

This half term in Geography, we are learning about migration.

Pupils will explore why people move from one place to another, looking at both voluntary and forced migration through real case studies from Europe, North America, Asia and our local area. They will learn about push and pull factors, asylum seekers and refugees, and how migration can shape communities.

Religion & World Views

We will be looking at "In what diverse ways do Hindu's build a sense of community?"

Spanish

We are learning how to speak, read and write about the weather. They will be understanding, preparing and presenting weather reports in Spanish.

Computing

Pupils will learn how to create and contribute to blogs by planning themes, writing posts, and considering audience impact. They will explore the features of successful blogs and the importance of commenting and collaboration online.

DT

Students are learning about sustainability by evaluating products and their life cycles, then designing an eco-friendly glue stick with a persuasive writing task to promote sustainable design.

Music

Pupils will learn how music creates mood in film by exploring instruments, key terms, and composing their own pieces.

Spellings

Week 1: Adding the prefix 'over-'

overbalance, overcoat, overcook, overlooked, overpaid, overreact, overslept, overthrow, overtired, overturned

Week 2: suffix '-ful'

beautiful, boastful, doubtful, faithful, fanciful, fearful, merciful, pitiful, plentiful, thankful

Week 3: Words that can be nouns and verbs

contest, freeze, impact, increase, object, permit, produce, silence, subject, transport

Week 4: Words with an /oa/ sound spelled 'ou' or 'ow'

blown, known, mould, poultry, shallow, shoulder, smoulder, soul, thrown, window

Week 5: Words with a 'soft c' spelled 'ce'

celebrate, cemetery, certificate, deceased, December, hindrance, necessary, nuisance, prejudice, sacrifice

Week 6: prefixes 'dis-', 'un-', 'over-' and 'im-'

disappointed, dissatisfied, dissimilar, impatient, overreact, overrule, overseas, unnatural, unnecessary, unsure

REMINDERS

Homework

- Spelling sheet given Monday, due Friday
- Weekly gap filling on Century online, pupils have log ins. Set Friday due following Friday.
- Read every day and log in reading record with an adult signature
- Practice times tables

KEY DATES

Tuesday 16th January - Parents Day (day long parents evening)

January 26th -29th SATs Mock Week

Thursday's 3-4pm Maths booster