



**HOLYWELL SCHOOL**

**CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**

**FOR**

**YEAR 6**

**2017 - 2018**

Dear Parents,

Following a busy year in Year 5, our pupils have now reached their final year in Key Stage 2. This year, pupils will be drawing together all of their experiences from the previous three years, enabling them to move into Key Stage 3 in Year 7.

Before this, your child will be taking their end of Key Stage 2 tests in English / Literacy, Mathematics / Numeracy and Science. These will take place between Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. It is asked that all Year 6 pupils attend school during this time (no family holidays please!). More information will be provided nearer the time explaining details of the tests and how you can assist your child.

This booklet has been produced in order to build on the strong partnership between school and home that was developed last year, by providing you with a clear (and brief) overview of the curriculum that your child will be experiencing this year.

## ENGLISH

Year 6 English lessons will continue to emphasise pupils' enjoyment and understanding of language, especially vocabulary, to support their reading and writing. Pupils' knowledge of language - gained from stories, plays, poetry & non-fiction texts - will support their increasing fluency as readers and competence as engaging and effective writers.



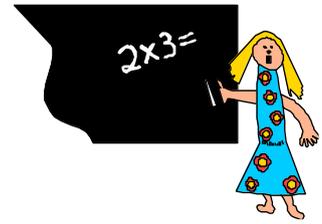
Pupils will be taught how to write effectively for different audiences and how to control their sentence structure and vocabulary choice for maximum effect. They will be given the opportunity to read, discuss and enjoy both significant modern children's authors and classic mythology. They will read, learn by heart and perform poetry. They will write, read and perform plays. The curriculum will be supported and enhanced by use of ICT and multi-media texts.

There will be a continued emphasis on the correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar. These elements will be explicitly taught and pupils will become increasingly confident at using academic language to describe their own and others' writing.

The main units of Study for Year 6 Pupils are:

- Journey to the Rover Sea - A major study of a contemporary novel
- Greek Myths - A study of myths, legends and traditional stories
- Poetry - A study of contemporary poetry
- The Cocklebur Ick and Friends – Effective use of inference
- Revision of all main elements of KS2 programme of study - comprehension and inference; writing for different audiences and reasons; sentence structure and vocabulary choice.
- The Girl of Ink and Stars - An in-depth study of a classic children's novel.

# MATHEMATICS



## **Autumn:**

We will learn more about place value, fractions, decimals and percentages and the four operations. We will study properties of shapes; position a direction of shapes and measurement in the context of length and time.

## **Spring:**

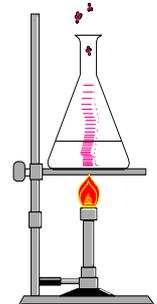
We will develop our skills of place value and the four operations to order, round, add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals. We will study algebra, ratio and proportion, properties of shape and statistics. We will also learn about measure in the context of mass, area and perimeter.

## **Summer:**

We will develop our skills in place value and the four operations to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions, decimals and percentages. We will study geometry, statistics, algebra, ratio and proportion and measure in the context of volume and capacity. The children will sit their SATs in this term.

# SCIENCE

Pupils in Year 6 will study topics from the new Key Stage 2 Curriculum. They have three lessons a week. Year 6 are taught in form groups. Lessons are divided between practical work, investigations and theoretical work.



Term 1a	Term 1b	Term 2a	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b
3-week Chemistry project including a formal assessment at the end of the project.  Keeping Healthy	Keeping Healthy continued  Evolution and inheritance	Light and Seeing  Electrical Circuits	Forces – unbalanced and balanced	Plant and animal adaptations	Exam prep and revision  Skills based project work in preparation for KS3

All learners in Science will be provided with both their effort grades and progress steps after each assessment piece. This will be reported to parents. This assessment progress grade will be based on teacher marked tasks,

formal exams and practical work. Students will complete an assessment every half term. Formal examinations will take place in the summer term.

The Science department will use a **DISH THE DIRT** format every half term. The DISH THE DIRT will focus on their half termly assessment and feedback. DISH THE DIRT is a week-long reflection on the progress over the whole of the half term.

## **HISTORY**

History helps pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. In lessons we develop pupil's ability to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence, sift arguments, and develop perspective and judgement. History helps pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time.



In Year 6 History we study Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots e.g Anglo-Saxon invasions, settlements and kingdoms, place names and village life and Anglo-Saxon art and culture. We then move on to study the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England (to the time of Edward the Confessor) looking at events such as Viking raids and invasion, resistance by Alfred the Great and Athelstan, and Anglo-Saxon laws and justice. After Easter we look at the development of language and communication in order to extend pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (this enables pupils to begin to create links to the Key Stage 3 History curriculum) and finish by learning about Mayan civilization c. AD 900 so that we can contrast a non-European society with British history.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

We start the year off by looking at the rainforest biome, where the children will learn about the Kayapo Indian way of life and how animals have adjusted to live in the rainforest. We also look at how the rainforest environment is being threatened.

From Christmas to Easter we study the topic of water world. Looking at what happens to water from cloud to sea and the processes that happen in the river system. During this topic we will take part in some field work within school grounds.



From Easter to summer we look at global trade, focusing on the product of Chocolate.

## **FRENCH**

In French this year the children will be building on the language learnt in year 5 and will be introduced to verbs in the present tense and other basic grammatical structures. They will be practising listening speaking, reading and writing French within specific topic areas.



Over the course of the year the children will be learning places in a town, and directions as well as researching a French town. They will also be describing a typical day and talking about their school. In the summer term they will be talking about free time and how and where they spend it.

## **R.E.**

The year begins with pupils studying Christian teachings in depth. We examine Jesus' teachings on love, forgiveness and wealth in detail and consider how each of these influences the actions of modern day Christians such as Corrie Ten Boom and conscientious objectors.



In the second term we learn about Sikhism. We start off asking how and why Sikhism began and consider the impact of the ten Gurus and the Granth Sahib on the establishment of this world religion. We then move on to learn out the key features of the Sikh religion; namely the 5Ks and the role of the gurdwara. Finally we look at how Sikhs put their beliefs in practice which involves studying the Sikh idea of sewa and the role of Sikh charities.

A panoramic unit is studied in the Summer term: Rites of passage/Sacraments. In this unit we will consider how different religions welcome people into the religion which will involve learning about baptism and coming of age ceremonies. We will then consider how religions celebrate commitment and learn about marriage ceremonies before studying how they mark the passing of a loved one.

## **I.C.T.**

Year 6 student will cover 4 main modules of work in ICT. These modules will build on their work from year 5. Students will take an extended module using Kodu which develops their programming skills in an exciting 3D world. They will continue to develop their spreadsheet and control skills using Excel and Flowol.



They will also use BBC BASIC to experience a more traditional programming environment. Each module of work will end with an on screen test which will help to assess learning. Kodu and BBC Basic are free programs and we encourage students to use them at home.

## **ART AND DESIGN**

In Year 6 this year, artists will be inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy and the beautiful surroundings at Wrest Park. Using Nature as a theme, they will develop their observational drawing skills, create art work outdoors and enhance their photography skills. Artists will then create an illustration of their inner 'SATs Monster', inspired by the local illustrator David Litchfield and focusing on their thoughts and emotions surrounding SATs.



## **DESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

Design Technology is a whole curriculum subject, applying learning from other subjects. It gives breadth and balance in the school experience, develops life skills and broadens career horizons.

During Year 6 pupils will study:

- Safety in the working environment
- Simple designing / planning
- Presentation and basic graphic techniques
- Cutting patterns
- Hand Stitching and Embroidery
- Use of the Sewing Machine
- Hygiene and simple food groups
- Basic food skills and the use of a cooker
- Simple hand tools
- Marking out, cutting and shaping of a variety of materials
- Electronic circuits and their components
- Using workshop machines and tools
- Introduction to the laser cutter



In addition, pupils will complete a number of design and make tasks throughout the year.

## **P.E.**

Holywell provides all pupils with 2 hours of timetable high quality curriculum PE every week and are offered a varied range of extra-curricular clubs. Units of work will last between 6-8



lessons so pupils will get the opportunity to participate in a vast variety of different sports and activities.

### **Autumn & Spring Terms**

<b>Football</b>	<b>Netball</b>	<b>Hockey</b>
<b>Gymnastics</b>	<b>Adventure and Challenge</b>	<b>Alternative Sports</b>
<b>Health and Fitness</b>	<b>Rugby</b>	<b>Basketball</b>

### **Summer Term**

During this term the activities covered are:



<b>Athletics</b>	<b>Tennis</b>	
<b>Rounders</b>	<b>Cricket</b>	<b>Top-up Swimming (non-swimmers only)</b>

There are a wide range of extra curricular activities which support the Physical Education curriculum. These clubs are open to all who wish to attend.

### **MUSIC**

Music at Holywell is fun, accessible to everyone and gives opportunities to celebrate the creative and performing talents of our pupils. We aim to:

- Encourage all pupils to participate in a wide range of practical activities
- Give opportunities to children to learn to play a variety of instruments
- Enable children to express thoughts, ideas and emotions through creating their own music
- Enable children to appreciate a wide variety of different musical styles and cultures
- Provide performance opportunities for children in and outside school to a variety of audiences
- Provide opportunities for musically gifted children to excel
- Provide equal opportunities for all children
- Develop a love and appreciation of music for life.

The department coordinates a wide range of extra-curricular activities throughout the year including, orchestra, Rock School, Ukulele Group, Choir, Samba Band, keyboard club and a host of other lunchtime and after school

activities that change throughout the year. We enjoy celebrating our talents by organising concerts, both in school and in the community including carol services at our local church as well as other concerts throughout the year. We have a wealth of visiting instrumental teachers and over 120 children take instrumental tuition in school. Music is a lively area and we enjoy a high profile in the school and community.

Year 6 Pupils will be involved in a wide variety of music making aimed at broadening their composing, performing and listening skills. Our young musicians will build upon skills learned in year 5 and use them to explore new areas for example,

- learn to read more challenging notations,
- learn to play and compose on ukulele
- compose and perform in different styles using musical structures eg Drone, ABA shape
- focus on improving keyboard skills
- perform and compose in trios, duets and quartets
- perform solo, duet and in groups
- sing a wide variety of song styles
- explore Folk music
- evaluate and compare different musical versions
- perform more demanding group pieces with different parts
- composing and notating using ICT resources



Self and group assessment plays a big role in year 6. Activities are mainly practical and all pupils who learn instruments are encouraged to use them in classroom activities.

### **Citizenship & Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

PSHCE develops pupil's personal, social, health and economic awareness and capabilities as well as ensuring that they are aware of their role in the community and how they can effect positive change.

In the Autumn term we begin by setting personal goals and remind ourselves of what it means to be part of a community, including internet safety and recognising and preventing bullying.

In the Spring term we focus on careers education and managing money. We also up-date our first aid skills (learned in Year 5) and discover some stress-busting tips.

In the Summer term we consider the effects of drug use after learning about the different types and risks. We also learn how to resist peer pressure and

making good decisions. We also deliver an SRE topic covering family relationship and changes, puberty changes for boys and girls (both physical and emotional) (please note there will be an information evening in the summer term which you will be invited to attend in order to find out more about the SRE curriculum).



Thank you for taking the time to read this overview. Hopefully it has given you an insight into the main topics that constitute the Year 6 curriculum.

Please could you continue to sign the personal organisers every week. They are an important point of contact between the school and home. Therefore, please feel free to use them to communicate with us. Please could you also encourage as much reading as possible at home and sign the reading record every second week.

We hope that you will continue to support and help your child with homework. Full information is contained in the 'Homework at Holywell' booklet. Subject Heads will supply your child with full written details of any important assessment tasks.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, or your child's Form Tutor, about any queries or problems that arise with your child's education. Finally, please reassure your child that they need not worry about the end of Key Stage Tests. We will fully prepare them and with their continued hard work we can enjoy another successful year.

Yours sincerely

*M. Eames*

Mr M Eames  
Head of Year 6