



Spring Term Newsletter 2026

Year 6

"With Christ as our guide, we inspire and thrive".

Welcome: A warm welcome back; we hope that the following information will be helpful in ensuring a smooth transition back to school for the Spring Term.

We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas, and we wish you all the best for 2026! For your information, PE will continue to take place on Wednesdays, so children will need to arrive in school dressed in their school PE kits. Please ensure reading records are in school every Monday for our monitoring. We encourage children to read daily at home, and it is a school requirement that children have **read 5 times per week**. Please enter a comment each time your child reads at home. Please sign and date your child's reading record **at least once per week** to indicate that they have read at home. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to any of the Year 5 team.

Religious Education: Sources - Community, Eucharist; Death and New Life

Mathematics: Fractions; Ratio and Algebra; Fractions, Decimals and Percentages; Area, Perimeter and Volume

Writing: This term we will be using the following books in class to support your child's writing skills.

- The Selfish Giant by Oscar Wilde – Fiction – Classic Narrative; journalistic Report.
- Dunkirk (opening scene) film study based on World War 2 – First person narrative.
- The Explorer by Katherine Rundell – Descriptions including dialogue, Non-fiction: diary writing; non-chronological report

Composition

Use organisational features in our writing to guide the reader such as paragraphs, headings, subheadings and bullet points. Evaluate and edit our writing thinking about the grammar, vocabulary and punctuation used.

Handwriting and Presentation

To continue to develop our handwriting making sure it is legible and joined correctly.

Spoken Language:

Build on the contributions of others after considering and valuing different viewpoints appropriate communication.

Grammar:

- Know all word classes
- Understand active and passive voice
- Use passive verbs
- Understand colons and semi colons within sentence composition

Spelling:

- Word list – Years 5 and 6
- Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c
- Words with 'silent' letters (i.e. whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)
- Contractions

Reading: This term we will be using the following books in class.

- The Happy Prince and other tale by Oscar Wilde
- The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

Children in Year 5 still benefit from being read to and listened to regularly. Please share books together at home.

Comprehension

- identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
- developing inference, retrieval and summarising skills within our reading.

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Science: Electricity, Light

Computing: E-Safety; Web Page Creation; and Blogging

Geography: Natural Disasters - How do earthquakes and volcanoes affect people?

History: The World Wars - What impact did **WW1** and **WW2** have on ordinary people in your local area?

Line of enquiry: What was the impact of the two world wars on Britain?

Art & Design: Exploring Identity: discover how artists use layers and juxtaposition to create artwork which explores identity. Make your own mixed media layered portrait.

Design Technology: Mechanical Systems: Pulleys or gears.

Music: Dona Nobis Pacem: You to Me Are Everything -Twinkle Variations

French: Funfair and favourites (Funfair rides, opinions, adjectives, plan and describe theme park, favourite things, tradition) Café culture (Café culture in France, opinions, French breakfast, hotel breakfasts, café roleplay

PSHE: Diversity including racism, acceptance and non-judgement and new experiences; Finance and Banks; British Values; Forest School

PE / Sports: Gymnastics, Football, Netball/ Basketball

Home Learning: Home learning will be set each week on Thursdays via Google Classroom. Each week, children will be given:

- 1 Maths task
- 1 English task (this will alternate between grammar and reading comprehension)

In addition to this, children are expected to continue their daily reading and to practise their times tables on TT Rockstars completing a minimum of 10 games per week. Some tasks will be paper-based, while others will be set through our online learning platform, IXL. Please make sure all home learning is finished and handed in by the following Thursday. If it isn't completed, your child will be given time at school to complete it. We encourage the children to take responsibility for their own learning and do their best to complete it on time.

Home Reading: As well as set homework, your child should also spend time each evening reading for at least 10 minutes. He/she will bring home a book from school. This book must be read as your child will have been assessed and set to match their reading band age. They may also read a book of their own choice from home / the library alongside this if they wish. Each child will also receive a reading record. The record should be filled in every time the child reads at home (minimum 3 x per week). The children should make notes about what they have read each week and have this signed by a parent / carer. This will be checked in school weekly so any parental comments can also be communicated here.

How you can help at home: Teach your child that failure is a stepping-stone to success and make academic subjects feel relevant to your child. Try to involve games in learning as much as possible. Where possible, research some areas of learning as this will act as pre-learning which will support your child being ready for the lessons.

- **Set a routine** – choose a regular time for home learning each day.
- **Create a quiet space** – free from distractions, with everything they need.
- **Encourage independence** – let them try first, then offer help if needed.
- **Talk about learning** – ask questions about their reading or maths.
- **Daily practice** – keep up with reading and times tables on TT Rockstars.
- **Praise effort** – celebrate persistence as well as correct answers.
- **Stay connected** – check Google Classroom/IXL together and contact school if needed.

Read to Succeed Reward System.

Bronze Star = 35 Reads
You've started your reading journey—keep it up!

Silver star = 70 Reads
You're halfway to greatness—amazing progress!

Gold Star = 95 Reads
You're a reading champion—golden level achieved!

Choose a book YOU love!
At the end of the year, your chosen book will be **gift-wrapped and personally presented** to you by **Mr McDermott** in a special celebration!

Work hard. Read lots. Earn your reward!
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