



YEAR 6

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to Year 6. We have some exciting topics, books and projects across our lessons. Making every minute count and having an ethic of excellence are our year group mottos.

ENGLISH

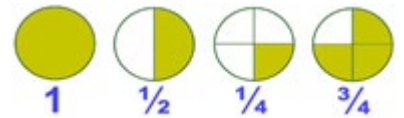


This spring, we will be writing in a range of styles: we will write to discuss, debating the pros and cons of SATs; we will write to persuade, based on the WWI propaganda we will be studying in our history lessons; and we will write to entertain, recreating a classic story to share with children in Early Years.

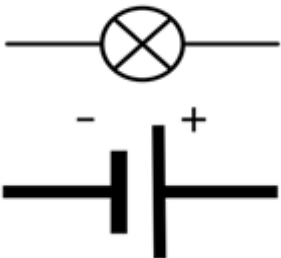
Our current class novel is Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo. The novel is about The First World War, which is our main topic, but there is much more to it than that. The novel covers universal themes such as childhood, school experiences, family bonds, loyalty, love and even death, in a sensitive way. Later in the term, we will read 'The Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow - an extraordinary verse novel about the final year of primary school.

MATHS

This half term, we are continuing our work on fractions, building confidence in comparing, ordering, and calculating with them. Soon, we will move on to exploring different ways to measure and how these measurements can be recorded, including weight, length, and capacity. These practical skills will help children understand how maths applies to everyday life. We will also keep using Mathletics and TT Rock Stars in school to strengthen fluency, so please support this by encouraging regular practice at home. We will also revise key objectives from the autumn term, focusing on place value and the four operations.



SCIENCE



Building on knowledge gained in Year 4, electricity is our new topic for spring 1 half term! We will be learning how to build circuits, read the different scientific symbols and investigate how the brightness of lamps/bulbs can change when we alter the circuit somehow.

As always, we will also learn about different careers in STEM that need to know about electricity e.g. Railway engineers. Children have log in details for Developing Experts, to further strengthen their science learning at home.

GEOGRAPHY

After the half term break, our geography unit will be Amazing Americas: researching the climate and physical geography there and how it compares with the UK.

Children will learn about time zones, biomes, countries and capitals of North America. They will describe the physical geography of the Rockies and learn about the impact of the Mount St Helen's eruption on its surrounding area. They will also compare New York City to Nottingham.



HISTORY



Our history unit is titled 'The First World War and Nottingham'. Throughout this topic, we will explore the major events that shaped the course of the First World War and examine how these global changes impacted life in Nottingham. We will investigate the city's contribution to the war effort, including its role in industry and the significant societal changes that followed. A key focus will be on the experiences of local people and the important role that women played during the conflict, both at home and in the workforce. By the end, we will understand how Nottingham's story connects to wider history.

AFTER SCHOOL BOOSTERS – SATs preparation

Year 6 will be invited to attend one after school booster per week with their class teacher and other support staff from January. At this time of year, preparing for our SATs exams is critical to give the best possible confidence to our children. Meetings will also take place to address your questions about SATs. The administration and preparation for SATs changes each year, so it is vital that you attend the parent/carer meeting so that we can work as a team to best support your child.

Our task is to practice reading and maths skills in readiness for the SATs week in May. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Year 6 team for help. Times and days will be detailed separately.



PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION



When is it okay to take a risk?
How can showing respect for other people's rights make our community a better place?

In PSHE this half-term Our PSHE units are 'Keeping Safe' and 'Rights and Respect'.

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

We will be completing the following elements of our RSE programme:

- Discuss different types of adult relationships.
- Describe the decisions that have to be made before having a baby.
- To have considered when it is appropriate to share personal/private information in a relationship.

Recommended book

Osborne Books - What's happening to Me?



COMPUTING



We will learn about using the program Excel to read and use spreadsheets which help store and use data. As part of this, we will collect data and produce tables and charts which show visually the trends and information we have collected.

CYBER SAFETY

Staying safe online is vital as we spend much of time on line socially and for learning. Updates will be shared in assemblies and in PSHE but the key messages remain: keep personal information secure and do not share log in details with other people.



ART



Our aim in art is to create a thoughtful propaganda poster inspired by the work of artists Luba Lukova & Shepard Fairey. Propaganda posters are useful in persuading the audience into action and were often used during WW1. Our posters will combine materials and techniques to help deliver a message to the audience which we will think about very carefully before we make our final pieces.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR

This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar, we will be learning about:

- World Braille Day
- Martin Luther-King
- Luna New Year
- Ramadan (Islam)
- Lent (Christianity)
- St David's Day (Wales)
- Holi (Hindu and Sikh)
- International Women's Day
- St Patrick's Day (Ireland)
- Eid-al-Fitr (Islam)
- World Autism Day
- Easter (Christian)



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Did you know... a good night's sleep helps children's mental, physical, social and emotional development.



We are very lucky to continue to have the presence of the NFFC coaching team who deliver our PE lessons every **Tuesday**. Please make sure children have trainers or tight fitting shoes to do their lessons. Our REAL PE lessons are on **Thursdays** and continue to support children to develop their practical and social skills across a range of sports as we focus on team building.

On PE days, please ensure your child wears the PE kit uniform of black shorts/joggers/leggings, a school polo shirt and trainers (preferably black). Please remove any earrings.

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES



• **How and when can I speak to my child's teacher?**

Please see a member of staff at the Year 6 door at the end of the day so that we can give the time required to help. If appropriate we can make a meeting for after school if a longer period of time is needed.

• **How can my child get help to do their homework at home?**

Bulwell Riverside provides a safe and supportive space for homework.

• **My child is unwell and not in school today, who should I tell?**

Please contact the office directly by popping in, phoning or sending a message on the Arbor app.

HOMework



The homework for Year 6 is set on a **Thursday** each week and should be completed by the **Monday**: this homework will include three separate pieces accessed via the online learning platforms which require their log in information.

Maths homework will be set on Mathletics in the form of assigned lessons. Reading homework will be assigned on Reading Eggspress. Spelling homework will be set on Spelling Frame under the tests section.

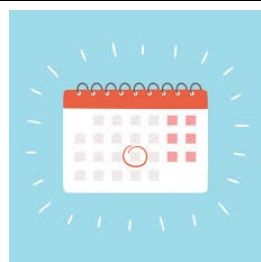
Children are expected to read 5 times per week and this should be recorded and signed by an adult on the right hand side of each diary page. Reading at home helps your child to earn their RED TED reading badges and rewards.

TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

In preparation for our exciting trip to Nottingham Trent University later in the year, we will be taking part in a series of engaging workshops designed to give us a real insight into university life. These sessions will be led by Nottingham Trent student ambassadors, who will share their personal experiences and provide valuable information about the wide range of opportunities available at university. From academic courses and campus facilities to extracurricular activities and student support services, these workshops will help us understand what to expect and how to make the most of university life. It will also be a great chance to ask questions, explore future pathways, and gain practical advice from those who have already made the transition to higher education. This experience aims to inspire and prepare us for the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.



DIARY DATES



HALF TERM ONE

05/01/2026 – Start of spring 1
 13/01/2026 – SATs Parents/Carers information meeting
 02-06/02/2026 – Wellbeing Week
 06/02/2026 – NSPCC Number Day
 10/02/2026 – Safer Internet Day
 13/02/2026 – Last day of spring 1

HALF TERM TWO

23/02/2026 – Start of spring 2
 05/03/2026 – World Book Day
 09-13/03/2026 – British Science Week
 18/03/2026 – Parents/Carers Evening
 23/03/2026 – Spring Disco (Y3-Y6 5-6.30pm)
 27/03/2026 – Last day of spring 2
 13/04/2026 – First day of summer term