

Year Six

Parent
Information

Our Learning Journey...

We support the children to be independent learners who take ownership of their own learning. We also encourage them to take pride in what they achieve and how they behave.

We aim to give the children experiences which drive their curiosity, engage them in their learning and build their confidence.

We have high expectations of all the children and we encourage and support them all to achieve their very best.

English

The children's literacy skills are vital across the whole curriculum.

In our daily English lessons, we focus on developing the children's writing along with their speaking and listening skills.

Year 6 writing involves two areas: choice and control. The children will be encouraged to carefully consider, and develop, the choices they make as a writer, such as vocabulary, sentence length or punctuation type, and to build on their understanding and control of these choices.

English

All English lessons begin with a short SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) activity which may involve the children retrieving and practising previous content or focus on dictation. This allows the children to embed their learning further.

We explore different text types in (approximately) two-week sequences. These sequences build to the children writing their own final pieces. There is always a purpose for writing and, where possible, the writing links to that term's topic.

English

The writing sequences begin by exploring the text type and its features. The children then often take part in experience lessons which may involve art, drama or an activity related to the text before planning their own writing.

During Big Write lessons, the children complete an extended piece of writing which becomes their first draft. The following lesson is then spent editing and improving this draft before they are given feedback from myself on it.

After editing, and responding to my feedback, the children will complete a final draft or a "published" piece.

Spellings

Every 1-2 weeks, we focus on a different spelling pattern. In our daily spelling lessons, we learn any associated rules and complete activities to embed this learning.

Reading

We also have whole class reading lessons in which we all explore the same book or text. Each lesson involves reading; this may be following along while I read, while a peer reads or taking it in turns to read to a partner.

While some lessons focus on developing the children's fluency and ability to decode, we also develop the children's ability to establish or analyse meaning and focus on the skills linked to the six reading domains.

Reading

These domains are Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve and Summarise; we use the acronym VIPERS to help children remember them.

Whole class reading lessons mean that the children can be taught skills directly and that every lesson is purposeful.

We may also have time set aside each day just to read: this may involve reading the book we're studying in whole class reading, reading a different book or the children reading their own chosen book.

Maths

We follow the White Rose Maths curriculum in which we build on the children's prior learning and learn new mathematical concepts through fluency, reasoning and problem solving activities in every lesson.

These activities allow the children to deepen their understanding and apply their learning in different contexts.

Maths

The government expectation is that children know their times tables up to 12×12 by the end of Year 4. Secure times table knowledge is very important in Year 6 so we continue to practise them regularly through short activities and games and to explore how we can use this knowledge.

We have a short arithmetic session daily in which the children individually work through questions involving the four operations and fractions, decimals and percentages before we mark and discuss as a class. We also have a short session on number every day.

Science

Each term, we have a different science topic which may have a biology, chemistry or physics focus. Each of these topics is a combination of scientific knowledge and understanding with as much practical exploration as possible.

We encourage the children to be curious, to ask questions and to investigate their thinking.

Our Topics

We have a different topic each term which will be either science, geography or history based. Where possible, subjects across the curriculum will link to this.

Every term, you will receive a Topic Web which contains an overview of what we will learn in different subjects along with any key dates for that term. These can also be found on the class pages.

Our first topic this year is a history one in which we will explore life in Victorian Britain and the many changes during this time.

Timetable

While our timetable may change depending on the term, week and class, here is an average timetable.

Day	8.40 – 8:55	8:55- 9:00	9-10:20		10:20- 10:40	Break	11-12	12-12:35	Lunch	1:20-2:15		2:15-3:15	
Monday	Early Work	Register	Class assembly	English	Spellings	10:40-11	Maths	Reading	12:35-1:20	PE			
Tuesday	Early Work	Register	Assembly	English	Spellings		Maths	Reading		Mastering Number	Music	Art	
Wednesday	Early Work	Register	Assembly	English	Spellings		Maths	Reading		Mastering Number	Science	Computing	
Thursday	Early Work	Register	Class assembly	English	Spellings		Maths	Reading		Mastering Number	PSHE	History	
Friday	Early Work	Register	Assembly	English	Spellings		Maths	Reading		Mastering Number	RE		Buddy class

P.E.

We have PE lessons weekly with Ash PE on Fridays, Hawthorn PE on Mondays and Sycamore PE on Thursdays this term. We will be starting the year playing netball and building the children's ability to play as part of a team.

As before, we will be continuing to ask the children to come to school in their PE kit on their PE day. The children will need to bring their coat too and ensure that their P.E. kit is weather appropriate.

Children with earrings should also bring earring tape although I do have some which can be borrowed if necessary.

Homework

We expect children to read regularly at home; reading with them and discussing what they've read will help to develop their fluency and comprehension.

There will also be a Times Tables Rock Stars challenge each week.

We will also introduce CGP homework books for children at the end of this term.

Morning Work

Before we do the register each morning, the children are always set morning work. This may focus on their arithmetic skills, building their vocabulary or consolidating previous learning. Where necessary, this time may also be used for children to attend short interventions.

This time builds up into over an hour each week so it's important that the children come in quickly and quietly and settle down to their learning.

Collective Worship

We have collective worship every day of the week. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, these are whole school while on Monday and Thursday, we have a class collective worship.

Our Class Page

Please do use the school website and class pages to access all our newsletters, copies of homework letters and topic webs.

The class pages also allow us to share our learning with you and show you what we've been doing in the classroom.

These will be updated with this term's information by the end of this week.

Year 5&6

We recognise that the move to mixed Year 5 and 6 classes was a significant change from previous years.

We worked hard last year to ensure that the Year 6 children will continue to experience all the usual excitement and special treatment of the year and have carefully considered the curriculum and how we will structure lessons to ensure coverage.

The children will still be well-prepared for the Key Stage 2 SATs and their transition to Secondary School.

If you need to speak to a class teacher

Please contact us via our class
emails:

ash@benson.oxon.sch.uk

hawthorn@benson.oxon.sch.uk

sycamore@benson.oxon.sch.uk

if you would like to speak to us.

If you have a question or concern
which cannot be addressed through
email, we can then arrange a time to
call you or an in-person meeting.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions, please
don't hesitate to ask!