

Red Kites



Year 6



Curriculum Overview

AUTUMN TERM

Autumn Term 2025

Reading

Once by Morris Gleitzman



The children will read the powerful novel *Once* by Morris Gleitzman, following Felix, a young Jewish boy navigating Nazi-occupied Poland in search of his parents. Through this emotional story, pupils will deepen their understanding of history and explore themes like hope, bravery, and friendship. Using the VIPERS reading strategies—Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Summarising—children will learn to understand unfamiliar words, infer characters' feelings, predict events, explain the author's choices, retrieve key information, and summarise events. This will help them become confident, thoughtful readers who think critically about texts.

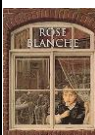
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens



The children will be studying *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, a classic novel that explores themes of generosity, redemption, and the true spirit of Christmas. Using the VIPERS reading strategies—they will deepen their understanding of the text and its historical context. Pupils will also develop their written responses, using evidence from the text to support their ideas. This unit will help build confidence with classic literature while strengthening key reading and writing skills.

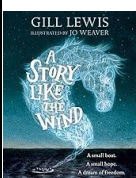
Writing

Rosie Blanche+ Anne Frank – writing a diary entry and a bravery speech



Through the poignant picture book *Rose Blanche*, which follows a young German girl's quiet acts of courage during World War II, the children will develop a range of writing and speaking skills. They will focus on identifying the purpose and audience for their writing, using strong models to help them select the appropriate form and tone. Pupils will learn to build cohesion within and across paragraphs and use a wider range of punctuation, including colons, semi-colons, and dashes, to link ideas clearly. They will also develop their speaking and listening skills by using gestures effectively to engage an audience—and by reviewing recorded presentations to set personal targets for improvement.

Story like the Win writing a narrative and a newspaper article



Using the beautifully written book *A Story Like the Wind*, the children will first write a flashback narrative, focusing on character and setting development. They will learn to use expanded noun phrases and a range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs. Following this, children will plan, write, and edit a newspaper article, drawing on reading and research to develop their ideas. They will focus on using organisational features to structure their writing clearly, as well as revisiting the use of direct and reported speech. Punctuation such as colons, semi-colons, and dashes will also be explored to improve accuracy and impact.

Maths



In the autumn term, your child will begin by securing their understanding of place value, including numbers up to ten million. They will learn to read, write, order, and compare large numbers, as well as round them accurately. Pupils will then move on to practise efficient methods for addition and subtraction, applying these to solve increasingly complex, multi-step problems. Next, they will focus on multiplication and division, using formal written methods, identifying common factors and multiples, and working with prime numbers. The term finishes with an in-depth unit on fractions, where children will learn to simplify, compare, order, add, subtract, and begin to multiply fractions. This learning lays essential foundations for later work on decimals and percentages.

RE



This term in Religious Education, your child will explore the question, "What would Jesus do?" by learning about the Gospel and how Jesus' teachings guide Christians to live with love, kindness, and forgiveness. They will also study the relationship between Creation and Science, discussing whether these ideas conflict or complement each other. Children will consider how some Christians understand the Bible's creation story alongside scientific explanations about the world, helping them appreciate different ways of seeing faith and science together.

Science



This term in science, your Year 6 child will study Evolution and Inheritance, learning how living things have changed over time through the process of natural selection. They will explore how offspring inherit features from their parents through genes, and how variations within species can lead to differences in traits. In the Light unit, children will investigate how light travels in straight lines, how we see objects when light reflects off them, and how shadows are formed. They will also explore concepts such as reflection, refraction, and how light behaves with different materials.

Art and Design



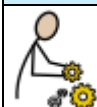
In art, your Year 6 child will dive into the exciting world of photography and digital art. They will explore creative techniques such as photomontage, where they combine multiple images to create new, imaginative compositions. The children will also experiment with macro photography, capturing close-up details to see everyday objects in a fresh way. Throughout the term, they will develop their skills in digital art and editing, learning how to recreate famous paintings using modern tools. A special focus will be on creating photorealistic self-portraits, helping them understand detail and realism in art. The children will draw inspiration from influential artists like Hannah Höch, Chris Plowman, Graham Holland, and Edward Weston, broadening their understanding of photographic art and design.

Computing



In computing, your child will first explore internet communication, learning how the World Wide Web (WWW) is used to communicate and find information. They will investigate different communication methods, evaluate what influences online searches, and compare search engines, using key terms like networks, internet, email, and fake news. Next, they will build on their Scratch programming skills by learning about variables in games. This will deepen their understanding of sequence, repetition, and selection, enabling them to design and improve interactive games using variables.

Design and Technology



In Design Technology, your child will be learning about pulleys and gears. They will explore how these simple machines work to make tasks easier by changing the direction or speed of movement. Through hands-on activities, pupils will design and create their own mechanisms using pulleys and gears, developing their understanding of mechanical systems and problem-solving skills. This practical unit encourages creativity while building knowledge of how machines are used in everyday life.

History



In History, your child will study an important period beyond 1066 by learning about the impact of the Second World War on children, both locally and across the country. They will explore how war affected daily life, including the experience of evacuation, and make connections to how conflict affects children today. Using a variety of sources—such as stories from people who lived through the war and local historical evidence—pupils will deepen their understanding of this significant turning point in British history and relate it to their own family histories.

Music



In Music, your child will develop skills in composing music to represent moods and pictures through soundscapes—musical pieces that tell a story over time. They will learn about timbre, or the tone and quality of different sounds, and explore how various instrument groups (strings, brass, wind, percussion) can be combined to create different effects. Children will also study musical concepts such as staccato (short notes), legato (smooth phrases), consonance (harmonious sounds), dissonance (clashing sounds), ostinatos (repeated patterns), and motifs (short musical phrases). Using examples from well-known pieces like Debussy's *La Mer* and Nat King Cole's *Mona Lisa*, pupils will be encouraged to make thoughtful instrument choices and experiment with texture to create expressive compositions.

MFL



This term in French, your child will learn about sports and the Olympics. They will develop vocabulary related to different sports and practice using these words in sentences to describe activities and events. Pupils will also explore how to talk about likes, dislikes, and abilities in French, helping them communicate about sport and fitness confidently. Through fun activities and games, children will improve their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills while learning about this exciting global event.

PE



In PE, your child will develop their skills in Tag Rugby, Basketball, and Handball. In Tag Rugby, they will focus on passing, catching, and teamwork, while learning the rules and strategies of the game to improve their attacking and defending skills. In Basketball, pupils will work on dribbling, shooting, and passing, as well as understanding game tactics and playing fairly in teams. For Handball, children will practise throwing, catching, and movement to develop coordination and control, while learning how to work together to outscore opponents. Throughout these sports, emphasis is placed on developing fitness, cooperation, and teamwork.

PSHE



In PSHE, your Year 6 child will focus on two important topics from the SCARF programme: Me and My Relationships and Valuing Difference. In Me and My Relationships, they will explore how to build positive friendships, communicate effectively, and manage emotions in different situations. The Valuing Difference topic encourages children to understand and respect diversity, recognise the importance of inclusion, and challenge stereotypes and prejudice. These lessons help pupils develop empathy, kindness, and the skills needed to build respectful and supportive relationships.