

Year 5/6 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn Term 2026

What will we be learning?

English	We will be using the book 'Curiosity' to learn how to write a space journey narrative and a formal mission log. We will learn how to use grammar features such as prefixes, relative clauses and expanded noun phrases.
Maths	Y5 - children will master place value and rounding numbers to one million—including Roman numerals—while developing skills in multi-step addition and subtraction, prime numbers, factors, and multiples. Y6 -children will master place value up to 10 million, powers of ten, and negative numbers, while also securing their skills in rounding, common factors, multiples, prime numbers up to 100, and long multiplication.
Science	In this unit, your child will explore the unique properties of different materials, making close observations to discover how these characteristics make them useful in everyday life. They will also dive into practical science by investigating how certain materials dissolve in water to form solutions.
History	During this half term, we will learn about Early Islamic Civilisation and how important Baghdad was in 900 AD. We will investigate the House of Wisdom and the Silk Road and compare London with Baghdad during this period.
Design Technology	Children will design and make a functional waistcoat by using a template to cut out fabric, sewing it together with a running stitch, and adding secure fastenings and decorations. They will also practice critical thinking by planning their design against specific criteria and evaluating the final product.
French	Your child will learn to discuss travel and transport, describing how people get around using the verb aller. They will be using "language detective" strategies to decode new words and build simple sentences with correct accents.
Computing and Online Safety	Your child will discover how information travels across the internet by exploring data packets, web addressing, and online collaboration. They will also learn about digital citizenship, focusing on how to communicate responsibly and make smart choices about what should and should not be shared online.
Music	Your child will listen to orchestral pieces, using varied vocabulary to discuss what they hear and learning to lead or follow a conductor to control pitch, volume, and texture. They will also work in groups to create musical improvisations and design their own graphic scores.
Religious Education	We will explore the history and spread of Christianity, learning how key leaders changed religious practices and why different denominations exist today. We will compare the similarities and differences in modern Christian worship, whilst sharing their own personal reflections.
Personal Development	Your child will reflect on the year ahead by setting personal goals and exploring global citizenship, learning how their choices affect others both locally and worldwide.
Physical Education	Your child has developed their individual football skills in dribbling, passing, and shooting, while working with teammates, whilst in Outdoor and Adventurous Activities they will be exploring how to collaborate effectively through different teamwork role.

Key dates...

Tuesday 8th September– all children return to school
Monday 21st - Wednesday 23rd September - Peat Rigg Residential (Y6)
Tuesday 29th September - Y6 SATs meeting, 3:30pm.
Wednesday 30th September - Choir performance at Cottingham Civic Hall
Friday 2nd October - Musical Theatre Day
Friday 23rd October - end of term.

Ideas to support learning at home...

- **Read regularly and talk about it.**
 - Encourage 10–20 minutes of reading most days (they can read anything: novels, magazines, nonfiction, even sports articles)
 - Ask *light, chatty questions*: "What's going on so far?" "Why do you think that character did that?" "What do you think will happen next?"
 - Let them hear you read sometimes too
- **Keep maths skills fresh:**
 - Number bonds practice (these are key even in Year 5 and 6)
 - Times tables practice (fluency up to 12×12)
 - Quick mental maths questions in the car or at dinner
 - Real-life maths: Cooking (fractions, scaling recipes) Shopping (totals, discounts, change)
- **Encourage independence:**
 - Encourage packing their own bag
 - Ask: "What do you need to do first?" rather than telling them
- **Build vocabulary:**
 - Pick out "interesting words" from reading and talk about them.
 - Swap everyday words for richer ones: "nice" → "delicious / pleasant / thoughtful"

