

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Spring 2026

CLASS: Year 6 Orchard



We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas Break and are looking forward to the Spring term! We are ready to go and will be focussing on making sure the children feel confident in the upcoming SATs tests. Please do speak to one of us about any questions you may have in regards to the tests.  
*Vannessa, Semine and Anthony.*

Class News

**PE Days:** Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Homework:** Goes home on Fridays and is due back the following Thursday. This will be a mix of paper based and Google Classroom set homework.

**Boosters:** These will continue this term - you will be informed by email if your child is part of a booster group

Each day, children should have: a water bottle, a healthy snack for breaktime (Fruit or Veg), their coat and bag.

**SATs:** The Spring term is a short term so it will be packed full of learning. We will be completing a round of mock SATs this term. The mocks allow for us to see where the children are, what extra support they need but also allows the children to get used to the requirements of the tests.

## CORE SUBJECTS

### English writing



This term, we will be using a variety of stimuli as the basis for our writing from persuasive speeches (Greta Thunberg) to narratives (Rose Blanche) to classic poetry (If).

Lessons will focus on:

word-level work such as adverbials, modal verbs, purpose-driven vocabulary, synonyms, conjunctions and more; sentence-level work such as passive voice, colons, semi-colons, dashes, hyphens, apostrophes, subordinate clauses, relative clauses and more; text-level work such as paragraphing, cohesion, structure and layout, writing for different purposes and audiences.



### English reading



Reading lessons include discussions around the text, a focus on vocabulary work and answering questions about the text both in-depth and quick-fire answers.

Skills will include: summarising, inference, retrieval, vocabulary, making comparisons and predictions.

A wide range of themes will be studied, linked to our curriculum. Examples include 'geography': Argentina, biomes, famous landmarks, Amazon tribes; 'science': British science week, safer internet day, dinosaur species.



Text types covered will be poems, reports, classic narratives, newspaper reports and fact files.

### Mathematics

This term, we will revisit and build upon some areas of maths taught last term and an opportunity to introduce new areas of maths.

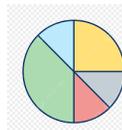
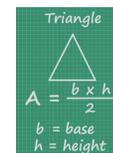


In ratio, children will be making links between ratio and fractions as well as ratio and factors (multiplication). They will solve problems using recipes and scaling up and down.

In algebra, children will investigate function machines, they will form expressions, explore substitutions, investigate formulae and find unknowns.

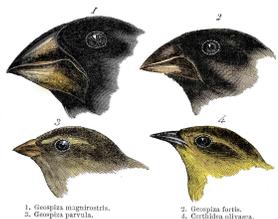
In their work on fractions, decimals and percentages, children will explore the equivalences between them, find percentages of amounts and percentages of missing values. Area, perimeter and volume will see the children find the area of triangles, parallelograms and circles. Children will be able to calculate the volume of cuboids. Finally in data, children will interpret and draw line graphs, dual bar charts and pie charts; they will also use data to find the mean.

$$3x + 1 = 10$$



## FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

### Science



Our unit for this term is **Evolution and Inheritance**.

The children will be learning about the reasons why children often look like their parents. They will also delve into the world of evolution and look at how humans, animals and plants have evolved over millions of years to suit their environments.

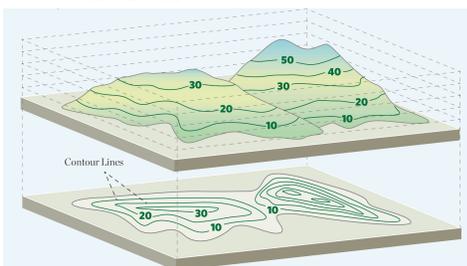
### PSHE



Our first unit is titled **Dreams and Goals**. The children will learn how to set themselves realistic, manageable goals and how to face and deal with disappointment. Later in the term, during our **Healthy Me** unit, children will be learning how exercise keeps them healthy and how drugs and alcohol can harm the body.

### Geography

Our first **geography** unit is all about the children honing their geography skills. They will learn to read 6 point grid references as well as topographical maps. The children will then learn to create their own sketch maps based on the local area.



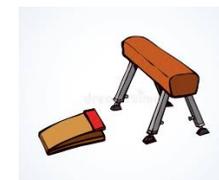
For our second unit, the children will undertake an in depth study about **Argentina**.



This South American case study will draw together the children's prior learning from their European and North American case studies in earlier years.

### PE - Gymnastics

In this unit, children will build upon year 5 gymnastics by refining straddle, forward and backward rolls both on the floor and on apparatus; working in pairs to perform counter-balances (push) and counter-tension (pull), both on the floor and on apparatus. They will move on to exploring and refining jumps (considering them as performance tools within sequences), inverted movements (headstands, handstands, cartwheels) and finally taking flight from hands to travel over apparatus - the culmination will be a performance, combining balances, jumps and movements in a sequence.



### Art

Our art topic this term delves into the work of **Banksy**!



We will be studying Banksy's work and thinking about the messages behind the artwork. We will also be discussing a key debate: **Is graffiti art?**



The children will then have the opportunity to create a piece of artwork in their own style with their own message drawing upon the skills they have learned over the years.

### PE

Our first outdoor unit of PE is **Netball**. In Year 6, we have a particular focus on developing our use of space and evasion.



Later in the Spring, the children will be learning to play **Tennis**. The children will learn how to become more accurate using both forehand and backhand shots as well as the ever-tricky serving technique!

