

What Year 6 are learning	Hints for helping your child
<p><b>English</b></p> <p>We follow the new National Curriculum, linking with class topics wherever possible.</p> <p><b>Reading:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the features of a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction.</li> <li>• The children will be reading in groups in Guided Reading sessions and will also be given time to read by themselves. They should continue to keep a record of the books they have checked.</li> <li>• Children will also be practising reading comprehension in class.</li> <li>• We will be reading the novel <i>Kensuke's Kingdom</i> by David Morpurgo and using this to support pupils will diary and story writing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Writing:</b></p> <p>Reading and writing a variety of texts including report writing, instructions, explanation, persuasive argument and balanced discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing fiction from different characters' points of view.</li> <li>• Writing a reading journal.</li> <li>• Information leaflets.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS)</b></p> <p>They will be taught grammar and punctuation in their English lessons, and will be given weekly spelling tests.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes, four times a week.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to develop an interest in newspapers / magazines.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to use the local library.</li> <li>• Read lots of books by Michael Morpurgo e.g. '<i>War Horse</i>' and write a book review.</li> <li>• Support your child in proof-reading (checking) their writing homework.</li> <li>• Support your child when their homework involves grammar and punctuation.</li> <li>• Support your child by getting them to write a paragraph about something they choose and then check it for grammatical accuracy.</li> <li>• Help your child to learn their spellings each week.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> <p>We follow the new National Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of place value, including large numbers and decimals (e.g. what is the value of the '7' in 276,541?;</li> <li>find the difference between the largest and smallest whole numbers that can be made from using three digits.</li> <li>• calculate mentally, using efficient strategies such as manipulating expressions using commutative and distributive properties to simplify the calculation (e.g. <math>53 - 82 + 47 = 53 + 47 - 82 = 100 - 82 = 18</math>; <math>20 \times 7 \times 5 = 20 \times 5 \times 7 = 100 \times 7 = 700</math>;</li> <li>• use formal methods to solve multi-step problems (e.g. <i>find the change from £20 for three items that cost £1.24, £7.92 and £2.55; a roll of material is 6m long: how much is left when 5 pieces of 1.15m are cut from the roll?; a bottle of drink is 1.5 litres, how many cups of 175ml can be filled from the bottle, and how much drink is left?</i>).</li> <li>• Recognise the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages and can express them as equivalent quantities (e.g. <i>one piece of cake that has been cut into 5 equal slices can be expressed as 15 or 0.2 or 20% of the whole cake</i>).</li> <li>• Calculate using fractions, decimals or percentages</li> <li>• Substitute values into a simple formula to solve problems (e.g. <i>perimeter of a rectangle or area of a triangle</i>).</li> <li>• Calculate with measures (e.g. <i>convert 0.05km into m and cm</i>).</li> <li>• Use mathematical reasoning to find missing angles (e.g. <i>the missing angle in an isosceles triangle when one of the angles is given; the missing angle in a more complex diagram using knowledge about angles at a point and vertically opposite angles</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to practise past papers e.g. using <a href="http://www.sats-papers.co.uk">www.sats-papers.co.uk</a></li> <li>• Encourage your child to use revision websites e.g. <a href="http://www.primarygames.co.uk">www.primarygames.co.uk</a>, <a href="http://www.snappymaths.com">www.snappymaths.com</a></li> <li>• Try to use practical maths around the home, e.g. cooking / shopping, travelling, telling the time etc.</li> <li>• Help your child with their multiplication tables and the corresponding division facts.</li> <li>• Write the year of your birth in Roman numerals.</li> <li>• Help your child to revise and learn from their Maths CGP book (especially facts such as the properties of shapes and relationships between units of measure).</li> <li>• Set quick fire mental maths questions, e.g. <math>21 - 4</math>, <math>27 + 9</math> etc. <math>5\% \text{ of } £86 = £4.30</math></li> </ul>

<p><b>Science</b></p> <p>Summer term topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evolution and Inheritance: pupils will learn that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.</li> <li>• RHS Tremendous Trees: Pupils will learn different ways to plant and care for trees, whilst at the same time looking at the role trees play in our environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to use their CGP book when completing science homework.</li> <li>• You could go to the Natural History museum and Science Museum and explore the plants and trees exhibits.</li> <li>• Go to a local park on a nature walk to your local park and see how many different sorts of living things you can find.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Computing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-safety lesson</li> <li>• We are Coders- Computer Science in Algebra</li> <li>• We are Biologists- Lego Wedo (open project Extreme Habitats)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your child about being safe online and at home.</li> <li>• Pupils can log on to code.org at home!</li> </ul>
<p><b>History</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Maya: Pupils will learn about the achievements of the ancient Maya, their perspective of time, the calendar system, writing, maths and the environment. In doing so they should see the contrast between their own history and that of the Maya.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If possible, encourage your child to research the history of the Mayas e.g. <a href="http://maya.nmai.si.edu/the-maya/maya-world">http://maya.nmai.si.edu/the-maya/maya-world</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rivers of South America</li> <li>• Pupils will study the location and characteristics of the main rivers of South America, focusing on the Amazon River. They will describe and understand key aspects of human geography such as types of settlement and land use of one area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to research the main rivers of South America and learn about the similarities and differences between this area and Southwark.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Art</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maya pictograms: pupils will be studying, drawing and then final painting their own Maya pictograms and making Maya masks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to learn about Maya pictograms and what they represented.</li> </ul>
<p><b>DT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maya masks: pupils will be making their own Maya masks using Modroc plaster.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow your child to research the history of the Maya.</li> </ul>
<p><b>RE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buddhism 4, Teachings. Over the term, pupils will learn about Dharma, the Eightfold Path, the 4 noble truths, the Sangha, Enlightenment and meditation and Wesak.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If possible, allow your child to research Buddhism using a child friendly website.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Music</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music lessons are taught by our music specialist, Georgina.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play different types of music to your child. Ask child to try and pick out the different ways the sounds are made.</li> <li>• Those who are learning an instrument should be encouraged to practise at home often.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PE</b></p> <p>At the moment, PE is done as part of our outdoor learning sessions. We will cover Athletics and batting, bowling and fielding games. In school, we will be learning about how to increase fitness, strength, flexibility and stamina through athletics activities and batting and fielding skills such as hitting and throwing and catching in bat, bowl and field games.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take your child to the park regularly to make sure that they are physically active. Go for a bike ride where possible or play games in the park.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PSHE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sex and relationship education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This series of lessons is optional. A letter will be sent home beforehand, and you will be asked whether you would like to opt out. The school does recommend that children take part in the lessons, however, as they are age appropriate and in line with national guidance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>French</b></p> <p>Talk about places around the school routines and tell the time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow your child to practise some French vocabulary at home.</li> </ul>

**Additional Useful Information**

- Year 6 will be doing a number of different transition workshops to support pupils with their move to secondary schools.



# **John Ruskin School Parents' Information Leaflet**

**Year Six  
Summer 2021**

**Theme - The Maya, Evolution and Inheritance and Tremendous Trees**



Outstanding School  
Ofsted 2009

