



September 2022

**Mingham Junior  
School**

# Year 6 Curriculum Letter

## Welcome to Year 6!



We are so excited to welcome you all back to year 6! It is so lovely to see everyone and we have already had so much fun in our new classes.

### English

Fairy tales are cute and cuddly, right? Not any more. During writing this term, the children will be twisting well-known fairy tales into alternative versions from different viewpoints. This will all start with the 'true story' of the Big Bad Wolf. In our writing lessons, we will be concentrating on surprising our reading audience using a range of effective writing techniques. Who says fairy tales have to have a happy ending?

We're in the final stage of junior school life and it is important we read a range of fiction and non-fiction. All of our writing units will be based around inspirational texts and we hope that we can continue to develop a love of reading.

### Maths

The maths game takes a level up in year 6 as we cover all of the curriculum we have previously learnt plus the extra bits we need to know in order to be ready for secondary school. This term, in order to support our problem solving skills, we will be delving into place value and the real value of numbers. Additionally, we will be securing mental and written methods for all 4 operations.

As part of our problem solving, we will need to be able to work with fractions and decimals as well as converting between different units of measurement.

### Guided Reading

Throughout the autumn term, year 6 will be reading the picture book *Jemmy Button*, followed by *Stormbreaker* and *Holes*. In each

unit, we will focus on the year 6 key skills, such as inference and comprehension through a variety of engaging tasks.

### Science

Over the term, we will be exploring evolution and natural selection. We will start by investigating the meaning of evolution and how this is identified through the discovery of fossils. We will continue our investigation by understanding how organisms reproduce and adapt to their environments. To finish the unit, we will apply our learning to help understand how environmental changes are affecting the planet.

### History and Geography

To kick start our history learning this year, we will be exploring Ancient Greece. In particular, we will be investigating what made the Athenians such a strong army and learning about the legendary Battle of Marathon.

After half term, for our geography topic, don't forget your gloves and scarves as we follow in the footsteps of Ernest Shackleton and head for Antarctica. What does this icy wasteland have to offer?

### Other foundation subjects

Our afternoons are the busiest time of the day; from programming our own computer games to classifying animals and plants, there is something for everyone.

**Art:** Sculpture

**DT:** Mechanical systems

**R.E.:** Laws/ Prophecy

**PDL:** Rights and responsibilities / Managing conflict

**Music:** African percussion

**P.E.:** Gymnastics/netball

**Computing:** Scratch maze game

### Year 6 staff:

**Mrs Buchanan** - Willow teacher

**Miss Richards** - Chestnut teacher

**Mrs Rawlinson** - Willow TA

**Mrs Vidler** - Chestnut TA

**Mrs Roffey** - Year 6 TA

**Mrs Fletcher** - Year 6 HLTA

### Home Learning

Home learning will again consist of Times Table Rock Stars practise (2x10mins+), Mental calculation practise on Numbots (2x10mins+) and spelling practise on either Spelling Frame or paper. Access to all sites are available through the following link:

<https://minghamjunior.co.uk/websites-for-learning>

Your children will also be asked to read at least 5 times a week. In encouraging children to take responsibility for their learning and to prepare them for secondary school, reading logs can be completed by children in year 6 themselves, rather than being signed by an adult.

Any child who has recorded reading eight or more books over the term will be awarded a free book in the end of term celebrations!

### A quick thank you...

We would like to say a really big thank you to all of our parents, carers and pupils for such a successful start to the term.

### Key Events & Dates for Year 6

**PE:** Thursdays and Fridays  
**(P.E. kits to be kept in school)**

**Home learning due:** Thursday

**Home learning set:** Friday

**Meet the teachers:** Tuesday 13th Sept

**Half term:** 24.10.22 - 28.10.22

**Parents' Evenings** 1.11.22 & 3.11.22

**Christmas jumper day:** 9.12.22

**Christmas lunch:** 15.12.22

**Last day of term:** 15.12.22

**INSET day:** 16.12.22

**Chestnut class assembly:** 21.10.22

**Willow class assembly:** 18.11.22