

## Curriculum Information - Year 6 - Spring 1 2026

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As we begin a new half term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many successes of the last. The previous half term was a thoroughly positive one, filled with impressive learning, growing confidence and a strong sense of responsibility, as Year 6 pupils continue to establish themselves as role models within our school community.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks for your continued support with your children's learning journeys. The encouragement, guidance and partnership you provide at home play a vital role in helping the children to flourish both academically and personally, and it is greatly appreciated.

This half term marks an important milestone for the children, as it represents the beginning of a more focused preparation for secondary education. Over the coming weeks, pupils will be encouraged to further develop their independence, resilience and organisational skills, alongside deepening their learning across the curriculum, in readiness for the next stage of their educational journey.

I am very much looking forward to witnessing the progress and achievements the children will make over the next seven weeks and am confident that the remainder of the year will continue to be a positive and successful one for our Year 6 cohort. Below you will find a summary of the exciting learning planned for this half term.

Should you have any questions, concerns or require further support regarding your child, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

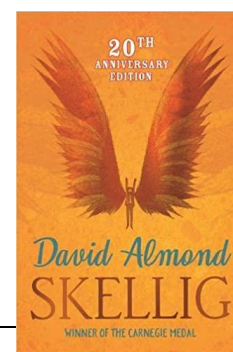
Thank you once again for your continued support.


**Best wishes,  
Mr Spencer**

### **Class text**

Alongside the completion of our study of *A Christmas Carol*, the children will also engage this term with *Skellig* by David Almond. This profoundly evocative novel captivates readers through its rich symbolism, lyrical prose and moments of quiet wonder, weaving a narrative filled with moonlight, owls and poetic imagery.

David Almond's distinctive use of language draws readers into scenes that linger long after they are read: Michael's first encounter with Skellig, hidden among dust, cobwebs and decay; moonlit moments in which the children and Skellig hold hands and seem to rise from the ground as they dance; and the dreamlike vision of Michael's mother witnessing Skellig gently lifting her fragile baby, wings seemingly emerging as hope begins to take flight. These powerful, memorable images offer pupils a masterclass in descriptive writing and atmosphere.



	<p>Throughout our study, the novel will be explored as a quintessential example of how language, tone and imagery can be carefully shaped to suit genre, purpose and authorial intent. Pupils will be encouraged to draw upon Almond's unique style to deepen their understanding of how writers use language to create meaning, emotion and lasting impact.</p>	
<p><b>RE</b></p> <p><small>The image part with relationship ID 'Id' was not found in the file.</small></p>	<p><b><u>Christmas</u></b></p> <p><b>In this unit of work the children will explore the story of the birth of Christ from the Gospel of St. Matthew and the Gospel of St. Luke. They will also learn about some images of Christ that are found in the Prologue to the Gospel of St. John.</b></p> <p><b><u>Followers of Christ</u></b></p> <p><b>In this unit of work we consider the call of the disciples by Jesus. The children will learn about the demands that the call of Christ placed on these first disciples and they will think about ways in which people answer the call of Christ today through the life of the Church.</b></p>	
<p><b>English</b></p>	<p>In English, the children will continue to refine and consolidate the key reading and writing skills they have developed throughout Years 4 and 5, building upon these foundations with increasing confidence and independence. As the term progresses, pupils will be expected to apply these skills across a range of extended writing tasks, carefully tailored to different contexts, audiences and purposes. Through this process, they will be encouraged to develop a more mature, assured and distinctive authorial voice, making deliberate and thoughtful choices about language, structure and tone.</p> <p>Many of the English lessons this term will be firmly rooted in our class text, <i>Skellig</i> by David Almond. Using the novel as both inspiration and stimulus, pupils will be challenged to adapt their writing for a variety of genres, including narrative, descriptive and reflective forms. They will explore and employ a rich and ambitious range of vocabulary, grammatical structures and literary techniques, learning how to shape atmosphere, convey emotion and craft meaning with precision and impact. These sessions will encourage pupils to take creative risks, deepen their understanding of effective writing, and extend the sophistication of their written work.</p> <p>Alongside this, the ongoing and essential teaching of core literacy skills will continue throughout this term and beyond. This will include regular and focused work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Grammar</b>, including sentence structure, cohesion and accuracy</li> <li>• <b>Handwriting</b>, with an emphasis on fluency, consistency and presentation</li> <li>• <b>Spellings</b>, supporting both accuracy and the confident application of ambitious vocabulary</li> <li>• <b>Reading and comprehension skills</b>, developing inference, analysis and a deeper understanding of texts</li> </ul> <p>Together, these elements will ensure that pupils continue to make strong progress as confident, capable and increasingly independent readers and writers as they prepare for the next stage of their education.</p>	
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>The Maths curriculum at St Mary's will continue to be delivered through "Power Maths" as an innovative,</p>	



progressive and exciting instrument to develop children's mathematical ability, promoting both a contextualising and an equitability within mathematical learning.

### Measure

- use, read, write and convert between standard units, converting measurements of length, mass, volume and time from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa, using decimal notation to up to three decimal places
- solve problems involving the calculation and conversion of units of measure, using decimal notation to three decimal places where appropriate
- convert between miles and kilometres

### Ratio and Proportion

- solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found by using integer multiplication and division facts
- solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known or can be found
- solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping using knowledge of fractions and multiples

### Algebra

- use simple formulae
- generate and describe linear number sequences
- express missing number problems algebraically
- find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns
- enumerate possibilities of combinations of two variables

**Please continue to practise times tables. A useful website to help practise for this is <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> which we will have been using in class too. TT Rock stars logins will also be re-issued if necessary as competitions will run throughout the year.**

### **Science**

#### Animals including Humans

In **Animals Including Humans**, Year 6 pupils will build upon their prior knowledge of biology by exploring how the human body functions to maintain health and wellbeing. They will study the circulatory system in detail, learning about the roles of the heart, blood vessels and blood, as well as how nutrients, oxygen and water are transported around the body. Pupils will also investigate the impact of lifestyle choices — including diet, exercise, drugs and alcohol — on the way the body functions. Through scientific enquiry, discussion and practical activities, children will develop a deeper understanding of how to make informed choices about their own health, while strengthening their ability to work scientifically through observation, research and the interpretation of data.







### **History**

#### The British Empire

In **History**, the children will explore the rise, expansion and eventual decline of the British Empire. They will develop a secure understanding of the chronology of key events, examining how Britain emerged as a dominant colonial and naval power during the modern period of history. Through this study, pupils will investigate the nature of empire, including the systems of power and control that underpinned its expansion, and consider how the British Empire shaped the identity of the nation itself. The unit will also explore the factors that led to the Empire's decline,



	particularly in the context of the First and Second World Wars, encouraging pupils to think critically about cause, consequence and historical interpretation.	
<b>Art</b>	This half term, Year 6 will explore the theme of <b>activism</b> through art. Pupils will learn how artists use their skills, creativity and personal vision to express powerful messages, often speaking on behalf of communities or causes they represent in order to inspire change and challenge injustice. Children will examine how the form an artwork takes — whether a piece displayed in a gallery, street art such as graffiti, or a self-published zine — is often deliberately chosen to suit the artist's intention and audience. Drawing on these ideas, pupils will then apply their understanding by designing and creating their own pieces of activist art, using visual language purposefully to communicate meaningful messages about issues that matter to them.	
<b>Computing</b>	In <b>Computing</b> , Year 6 will continue to develop their digital skills through a range of focused units on Purple Mash. In <b>Coding (Unit 6.1)</b> , pupils will strengthen their understanding of algorithms, variables and debugging by designing, writing and refining their own programs. <b>Online Safety (Unit 6.2)</b> will support pupils in developing a strong awareness of how to stay safe, responsible and respectful online, particularly as they become more independent digital users. Finally, in <b>3D Modelling (Unit 5.6)</b> , children will explore digital design by creating and manipulating three-dimensional objects, developing their spatial awareness, creativity and technical precision. Together, these units will help pupils become confident, capable and responsible users of technology as they prepare for secondary education.	
<b>French</b>	<b><u>In my French House</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe house types in French</li> <li>• Know the names of rooms in houses</li> <li>• Know correct vocabulary for furniture</li> <li>• Use prepositions to describe position of furniture in the bedroom</li> <li>• Write a letter describing your home</li> </ul>	
<b>PE</b>	<b>Physical Education</b> lessons will take place on Mondays and will be led by Mr Spencer. Please ensure that your child has their P.E. kit in school every day from Monday to Friday, as additional P.E. sessions may take place throughout the week to support and enhance the main lesson delivered on a Monday. Thank you for your support in helping us maximise learning and activity opportunities.	
<b>Music</b>	<b>Music</b> will continue to be taught by the marvellous Mrs Amison. Year 6 will move forward in their journey through the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century to the era of Jazz and Swing, singing songs, improvising using scat sounds and listening to artists from the "Great American Songbook" such as Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman and Louis Prima. Finally, Year 6 will investigate the instrumental makeup of a big band and analyse a Glenn Miller	

	arrangement.	
PSHE	<p>In Year 6 we be exploring our own class charter, encompassing the British values of democracy and individual liberty so that the values and virtues of the half-term can be firmly rooted within both Catholic Social Teaching and classroom qualities.</p> <p>Throughout the year, we will be continuing to follow the Ten:Ten 'Life to the Full' programme for RSHE. Please log into the parent portal to access Information about the programme your children will be following, access to resources and suggestions for further activities at home.</p> <p><a href="http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/">www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/</a></p> <p>You will need the following login credentials for our school:  Username: <b>st-mary-st6</b>  Password: <b>vision24-st6</b></p>	
Key events for the half term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Maths and Literacy set each day</li> <li>• Two pieces of homework (Maths or English as well as one foundation subject) will be handed out on a Thursday and should be completed and handed in on the following Monday. *This may be completed on Teams or within weekly homework books.</li> <li>• <b>Spellings and Times tables are tested on a Friday. Times table tests will be integral this half term as we prepare for SATS</b></li> </ul>	