

# Year 6 Newsletter

January 2026

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. The Year Six Teachers and Teaching Assistants would all like to thank you for the Christmas gifts and cards you sent in. Your generosity was very much appreciated.

Welcome to the Spring Term, which promises to be as busy and as exciting as the Autumn Term. We are looking forward to continuing to work with the Year 6 children, as well as yourselves, to ensure productive and successful outcomes for all pupils.

This newsletter is to outline some of the events that are happening this term and also to provide you with information about what your child will be learning. This is an extremely important term in your child's schooling as we prepare them for the SATs tests, which take place the week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

With secondary school in mind, we are encouraging the children to be more independent with their organisation and learning this term and would very much appreciate your support with this.

## **SATs Revision & Homework:**

As well as a specific focus in our weekly GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) and daily Class Comprehension sessions, we will also be undertaking two mock SATs weeks. These will take place the weeks beginning 19<sup>th</sup> January and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

The English homework timetable for the Spring Term remains unchanged, although during the second half term, there will also be the addition of some test type questions included with the weekly maths homework where appropriate.

## English:

In English, this half term, we will be studying fantasy narrative writing, based upon the novel: 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J.K. Rowling. In addition, we will be considering the language and features of formal and informal letters, linked to our Harry Potter stimulus. In the second part of the term, we will be studying The Arrival by Shaun Tan, a thought-provoking text that explores themes of travel, family, and loneliness. Using this as inspiration, the children will write flashback narratives, developing their ability to convey emotion and atmosphere through descriptive language and structure.

During our Monday and Friday GPS lessons, the children will continue to develop their understanding of different grammar and spelling rules as well as focused reading comprehension tasks. There will be a key focus on high-order punctuation this term.

## Comprehension:

Pupils will continue to take part in daily comprehension lessons, with each session focusing on how to answer a range of question types. To further support your child's progress, it is important that your child reads aloud at home at least 3 times per week and independently as often as possible in order to develop their comprehension skills; as well as, their fluency, reading pace and understanding of a range of vocabulary. Please remember to sign children's Reading Diaries each week.

## Spelling:

In order to prepare children for the SATs test in May, the spellings in Year 6 will continue to focus on the revision of spelling rules and patterns that have already been covered in Year 3 – 5. The words for Year 6 cover the statutory word list from the National Curriculum for Years 3 and 4, and Years 5 and 6.

## Maths:

The children will continue to work in their current Maths sets, but changes to these sets may be made as the term progresses, if your child's Maths teacher feels that this is appropriate for his or her progress. If this affects your child, their Maths teacher will phone you to discuss the potential change.

During the Spring term, we will continue to learn a range of curriculum topics that include: Ratio and Proportion, Algebra, Converting between metric and imperial measurements, Area and Perimeter, Geometry and Statistics.

## Science:

This term in Science, we will be exploring two fascinating topics: Animals including Humans and Light. In our study of Animals including Humans, the children will learn about the human circulatory system. Later in the term, we will turn our attention to Light, where pupils will discover how light travels in straight lines, how this explains shadows, and how we see objects.

## Geography:

In Geography we will be learning the geographical features of South America, with some focus on the region of Brazil. We will continue to develop children's understanding of land use and how trade is an essential part of their economy. Within the second half of the term, children will learn about the Amazon Rainforest and how land use has changed over time, considering the environmental impact of this.

## Art and DT:

In Art, we will be studying the Brazilian artist Eduardo Kobra, analysing and applying his techniques. After half term, we will switch to our DT project, which will focus on making dips that could be found in Brazil.



**RE:**

In RE, the children will continue to develop an understanding towards other world religions, with a key focus on Humanism and philosophical ideologies.

**Games:**

PE and Games lessons will be taught on Mondays and Thursdays next term. It is essential that the children have the right uniform for these lessons: a dark-coloured tracksuit, as the weather continues to be quite cold, blue shorts and t-shirt, for lessons inside and plimsolls. This term, the children will be developing skills within Tag Rugby, Street Dance, Netball and Dodgeball.

**Music:**

Music for this half term will be delivered by the Essex Music Services and will be African drumming. The children will also learn about rainforest music to link to our South America topic.

**PSHE:**

PSHE this term will focus on pupils' aspirations within our 'Dreams and Goals' unit, and develop healthy habits and understanding within our 'Healthy Me' unit.

**French:**

Children will be learning how to articulate their hobbies and how they spend their free-time within our 'The Weekend' unit. As well as this, pupils will express which Olympic sports they like, dislike and participate within during our 'Olympic' topic.

**Important Dates:**

- 12.01.26 – Additional Parents' Evening (A separate letter has already been sent out if you are required to attend)
- W/C 19.01.26 – Mock SATs Week 1
- 10.02.26 & 12.02.26 - Parents' Evening
- 02.03.26 – Drop ins with Maths set teachers
- 05.03.26 – World Book Day
- W/C 09.03.26 – Mock SATs Week 2
- 30.03.26 – Easter Revision Day for Year 6 (further details will be sent out nearer the time)

If you have any queries about this newsletter or any issue concerning your child, then please contact the School Office to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher, or contact us via the Year 6 e-mail address ([bjsyear6@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk](mailto:bjsyear6@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk)).

We all look forward to continuing to work with you in order to help your child achieve their full potential.

Yours sincerely,

Year 6 Team

