

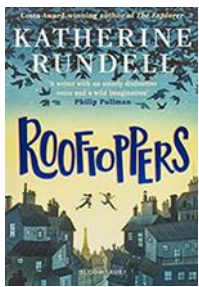
Year 6 Curriculum Letter - Autumn Term 2025

Welcome to Year 6

We are looking forward to enjoying a fantastic final year at Applecroft as we prepare children to transition to the next exciting stage of their learning journey. We expect children to work hard and develop their independence and confidence, supporting the wider school community as excellent leaders and role models.

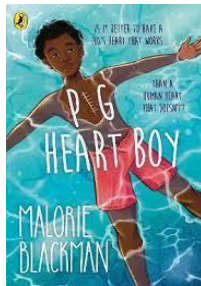
English

Reading:



In our whole class reading we will begin the term with a beautiful book called 'Roftoppers'. The children will develop their reading comprehension skills with this and other related texts in a daily reading lesson.

Our main text in the second half of term is Pig Heart Boy. All children will have their own copy of the text and home learning may include reading preparation for future lessons. Daily reading at home is expected and should be recorded on Boom Reader.



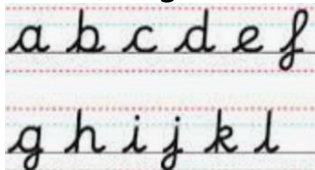
Writing:

We start the year writing short stories for a whole class book, under the theme 'Writing to Entertain' and based around the texts 'Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror' by Chris Priestly and 'Short Too!' by Kevin Crossly-Holland. We will then move onto Non-Chronological Reports using the beautiful book 'Planetarium' before returning to Narrative using 'Wisp: A Story of Hope' by Zana Fraillon and Graham Baker-Smith. We then finish the Autumn Term writing persuasive speeches based on 'Talking History'.

We will develop composition and grammar skills in these lessons. Grammar knowledge will also be consolidated alongside our spelling learning.



Handwriting:



A weekly handwriting lesson will be used to extend and polish learning that has taken place previously. Some children may have additional practice if this is helpful.

Spelling:

Direct teaching of spelling takes place weekly and includes spelling rules, phonetic, morphemic and etymological exploration. Investigations will be a regular feature of our spelling lessons and home learning.

Maths

We will be following the Essential Maths programme with a strong focus on number this term and will also cover shape, measures and statistics. Please help your child to practise their multiplication tables on a regular basis. This will help in so many areas of maths, including division and fractions. Using maths at home in everyday situations such as cooking and shopping will also help mathematical confidence and agility. There are many interactive on-line games you can use such as: Times Table Rockstars and BBC Bitesize games.

Art & Design:



Our Art lessons this year will include studies of both the class artists.



In this term's unit on **painting**, we will look at how artists such as Cezanne use composition and how Andy Warhol uses different colour schemes. We will also learn about **printing** in our art week and use a silk screen.

Computing:

We will be looking closely at **Online Safety** in the first part of this term, including learning how to identify secure websites and encouraging pupils to apply their internet safety knowledge both in school and at home.



During the second half of the term, we will be creating Webpages to use as our Leadership Portfolios to link with Leader in Me, before constructing and manipulating 3D digital models using Tinkercad in our '**Creating Media**' topic.

Design Technology (DT):



In DT, the children will undertake a food and nutrition topic focused around **eating ethically**.

We will also link with our Science topic on **Electricity** by testing the uses of switches. Later in the term, we will explore how we can use **mechanisms and gears**, ahead of the STEMPoint (Herts) Challenge next year.

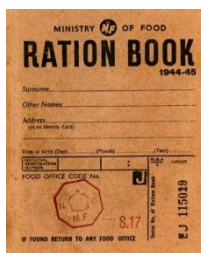
Geography:

This term, Year 6 will be exploring the physical geography and processes of **earthquakes, mountains, and volcanoes**.



This will include investigating how tectonic plates create and influence the physical geography of Earth.

History:



Our history topic is '**The Battle of Britain**'. We will be learning about the causes of conflict in the second world war and how this impacted on people between 1939 and 1945.

In particular we will learn about evacuation, rationing, the Battle of Britain and the Blitz.

Leader in Me & The 8 Habits:

We will continue to develop leadership in all our pupils and explore how the 8 habits can support us to be proactive and effective learners and leaders.



Year 6 children will have new roles such as playleading, running the school shop and

This will prepare children to build on their knowledge as we explore other aspects of 20th century history in the Spring.

assembly support to further develop their independence and leadership across the school.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL):

Music:



This term in French we will be covering the 'At School' (A L'Ecole) topic.

This topic covers learning about the school day and the names of the school subjects. We will be learning how to say simple phrases including telling someone which subjects we like and dislike.

This half term's topic is 'Sing Musical Stories'. We will be listening and responding to a variety of songs and the meaning of their cultural and social lyrics, learning to sing in harmony and with descant parts, creating our own song lyrics, and performing as an ensemble.



In the second half of the term we will develop **composition skills using music technology.**

Physical Education (PE):

Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education (PSHE):



PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays for both classes and will cover **gymnastics** and **invasion games**.

Children should wear their PE kits to school on these days and must have warm clothing to wear when the weather turns cold. Trainers should remain in school every day to allow children to participate in the Daily Mile.

We will start our term by combining PSHE and Computing to consider Online Safety, looking at topics such as cyberbullying, online gaming danger, group chats and online privacy.

We then move to physical health and well-being, looking at medicine and product safety, habits, addiction, and the effects of alcohol and drugs, aligning with our Science topic.

Religious Education (RE) & Worldviews:

Science

This term we will be learning about Judaism. We will explore many different Jewish celebrations including Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. We will link to our History topic of WWII and learn about the Holocaust. Linked to the Holocaust, we will also visit our local synagogue which was founded by Jewish refugees during WWII.

The Science topics this term are **Electricity** and **Animals Including Humans**. We will look at the human circulatory system and the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will explore and recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way our bodies function.

Attendance & Punctuality:

Registration takes place promptly at 8.45 and the school day runs until 3.15pm. Children should arrive from 8.35am for a 'soft start'. Children complete early morning work during this period before assembly. Punctuality is important: children arriving in class after 8.45 will be marked as late in the register. If your child is absent, please inform the school office as soon as possible. Children are expected to attend school every day, unless they are unwell.

96%+ = good attendance

Behaviour & Discipline:

Our Behaviour Policy encourages positive, helpful and socially acceptable behaviour and children are aware of the school's behaviour expectations: to be responsible for yourself and your actions; to be honest, open and reflective; to be kind and supportive; to be respectful and well-mannered. In addition both classes have created their own class mission statement to support this behaviour and their learning. The green triangle is used to recognise and reward positive behaviour and this system includes class rewards, house tokens and certificates. There are warnings and consequences for detrimental behaviour which does not meet the behaviour expectations.

Home Learning:

Home learning will be set on Google Classroom on a Friday in line with the rest of the school and will be due the following Friday. We will discuss with the children how they can be proactive and organise their week to complete tasks on time. Please support your child to develop good habits by managing their home learning over the course of the week. Home learning is set for Maths, Reading and Spelling, as well as pre-reading for foundation subjects using Curriculum Visions.

Key Dates:

Y6 Welcome Meeting - Monday 8th September @ 2.40pm in the Main Hall
Volunteer Safeguarding Meeting - Friday 12th September @ 9am in the Small Hall
Volunteer Safeguarding Meeting - Monday 15th September @ 2.30pm in the Small Hall
Individual/Sibling School Photographs - Monday 22nd September
Flu Vaccines - Wednesday 1st October
OPAL Parent Playday - Thursday 2nd October @ 1.30pm
Young Shakespeare Performance (in school) - Monday 20th October
Art & Design Themed Week - Monday 20th - Friday 24th October
Half term - Monday 27th - Friday 31st October
Bikeability - Monday 3rd to Friday 7th November
PTA Fireworks - Friday 7th November
PTA Wreath Making Workshop - Saturday 29th November
Parent Consultations - Monday 1st December ***Please note: INSET Day***
Open Afternoon - Friday 5th December @ 2.15pm
Christmas Show - Tuesday 9th December @ 1.30pm and 6pm; Thursday 11th December @ 6pm
Pantomime Visit - Friday 12th December
PTA Christmas Disco - Friday 12th December
Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day; Carols after school - Thursday 18th December
Last Day of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December - School finishes at 2pm
Y6 SATs Week - Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May 2026
Residential Information Meeting for Parents/Carers - Tuesday 19th May @ 9am in the Main Hall
Residential Trip PGL - Monday 15th - Friday 19th June 2026

Safeguarding:

Should you have any concerns over a child's welfare please contact any of our DSLs via the school office. Our DSLs are Ms Ruth Johnson, Mrs Lisa Withe, Mr Paul Wyatt and Ms Jale Apicella. They can also be contacted via safeguarding@applecroft.herts.sch.uk. If urgent please contact the school office.

Staffing in the Year Group:

Mrs O'Connor - Y6 Lead, Warhol Class Teacher and Upper KS2 Phase Leader
 Mrs Boulton - Moore Class (Monday, Tuesday)
 Mrs Brandon - Moore Class (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
 Mrs Parnham and Ms Syrett - Y6 LSAs
 Mrs Wake/Sports Coach - PPA Teachers (Thursday pm)

Timetable:

The timetable for the Autumn term in Year 6 includes PE on Tuesday and Thursday.

Key Stage Two: Year 6 Autumn 2025

8.35 Soft Start	8-45	8-45 -8-55	9.00 -9-15	9:20 - 10:20am	10:20 10:35	10:35 - 11.15	11.15 - 12:15	12:15 -1:15	1:15-1.45	1.45-3.00	3-3:15
Monday	Reg	EMW	Music Assem.	Maths	B R E A K	Reading for Writing (HfL)	Writing	L U N C H	Reading (CUSP)	Foundation/CUSP	C L A S S R E A D A L L O U D
Tuesday	Reg	Leader in Me	Maths	Reading (CUSP)		Spelling/ Handwriting	PE (PPA)		Writing	Foundation/CUSP	
Wednesday	Reg	EMW	Curr. Assem.	Maths		Reading for Writing (HfL)	Writing		Reading (CUSP)	Foundation/CUSP	
Thursday	Reg	Leader in Me	Maths	Reading (CUSP)		Spelling/ Handwriting	Writing		PE (PPA)	RE (PPA)	
Friday	Reg	EMW	Achieve Assem.	Maths		Reading for Writing (HfL)	Writing		Reading (CUSP)	Foundation/CUSP	

There may be occasional variations to the timetable, for example when outside visitors attend.

Year on a Page

Please see the Year 6 Page for a link to this document:

<https://www.applecroft.herts.sch.uk/year-six-1/>

Uniform Expectations:

School uniform, PE uniform, shoes - not books, accessories,

School Uniform should be worn daily and all items must be labelled. Long hair should be tied back and hair ties in school colours (red, black). Black school shoes, not trainers or boots. No nail varnish or jewellery is allowed other than a pair of small stud earrings.

P.E kit: White T-shirt and black shorts (no branded items). A plain black sweatshirt or joggers may be worn if the weather is cold. Trainers should be in school every day for the Daily Mile. PE kits should be worn to school on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** (both classes).

A small pencil case containing black writing pen (not ball point), pencil, eraser, sharpener, scissors, glue stick and protractor should be in school daily. Children will also need a small selection of colour pencils and a set of highlighters. A reading book from school or home should also be in school daily. Watercolour palettes, a brush and art pencils may be brought in optionally. All stationery items are available in the school shop which is open each morning.



Art shirts: Please ensure your child has their own art shirt in school - to be kept in their locker.

Communication:

Please contact us via email for non-urgent matters: admin@applecroft.herts.sch.uk

For urgent matters, please contact the school office.