



Giraffe (Year 6) Summer Term Newsletter 2026





English



This term, Year 6 will be studying two core texts: "Artemis Fowl" and "Where the River Takes Us" by Lesley Parr.

"Artemis Fowl" is a fantasy adventure series by Eoin Colfer about a 12-year-old human criminal mastermind who discovers a high-tech, dangerous fairy civilization. The series follows Artemis as he kidnaps a fairy officer to steal their gold, sparking a battle against supernatural beings, which eventually evolves into him becoming an anti-hero defending humanity.

"Where the River Takes Us" by Lesley Parr is a children's adventure story set in a Welsh valley in 1974, during the miners' strike. Thirteen-year-old Jason is living with his older brother Richie after their parents' deaths. Jason and his friends embark on a quest to find a mysterious wild cat and claim a cash reward. The story explores themes of friendship, grief and family, while also highlighting the hardships faced by working-class families during that period.

I can't wait to explore these interesting texts with Year 6! The children will be writing a narrative, as well as non-fiction pieces, including information posters and persuasive texts

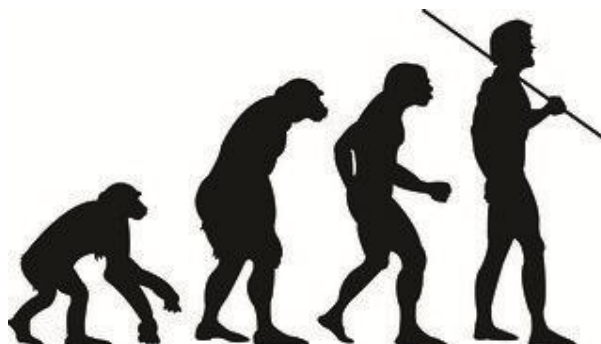
Maths



This term, Year 6 will engage in a comprehensive mathematics curriculum encompassing various key concepts. This term we will be focusing on Shape together with Position and Direction. Alongside these topics, we will be embedding strategies from our learning earlier in the year in preparation for the SATs next month.

Post-SATs the Giraffes will be taking part in a Business Enterprise scheme. It'll spark their creativity and develop key life skills – like problem-solving, managing money and teamwork. Each team will receive some money and they can use this to set up their own mini-businesses. Pupils have to come up with a bright idea, make a plan, use their money to develop their product or service and sell them for a profit. They'll get advice along the way from the Giraffe Team of course! Then it's game on to see who comes out on top! We will then collectively decide how to spend the profits – it might be a pizza party, resources for the school and/or a donation to a local charity to support their community.

Science



Light Theory

This project teaches children about the way that light behaves, travelling in straight lines from a source or reflector, into the eye. They explore how we see light and colours, and phenomena associated with light, including shadows, reflections and refraction.

Evolution

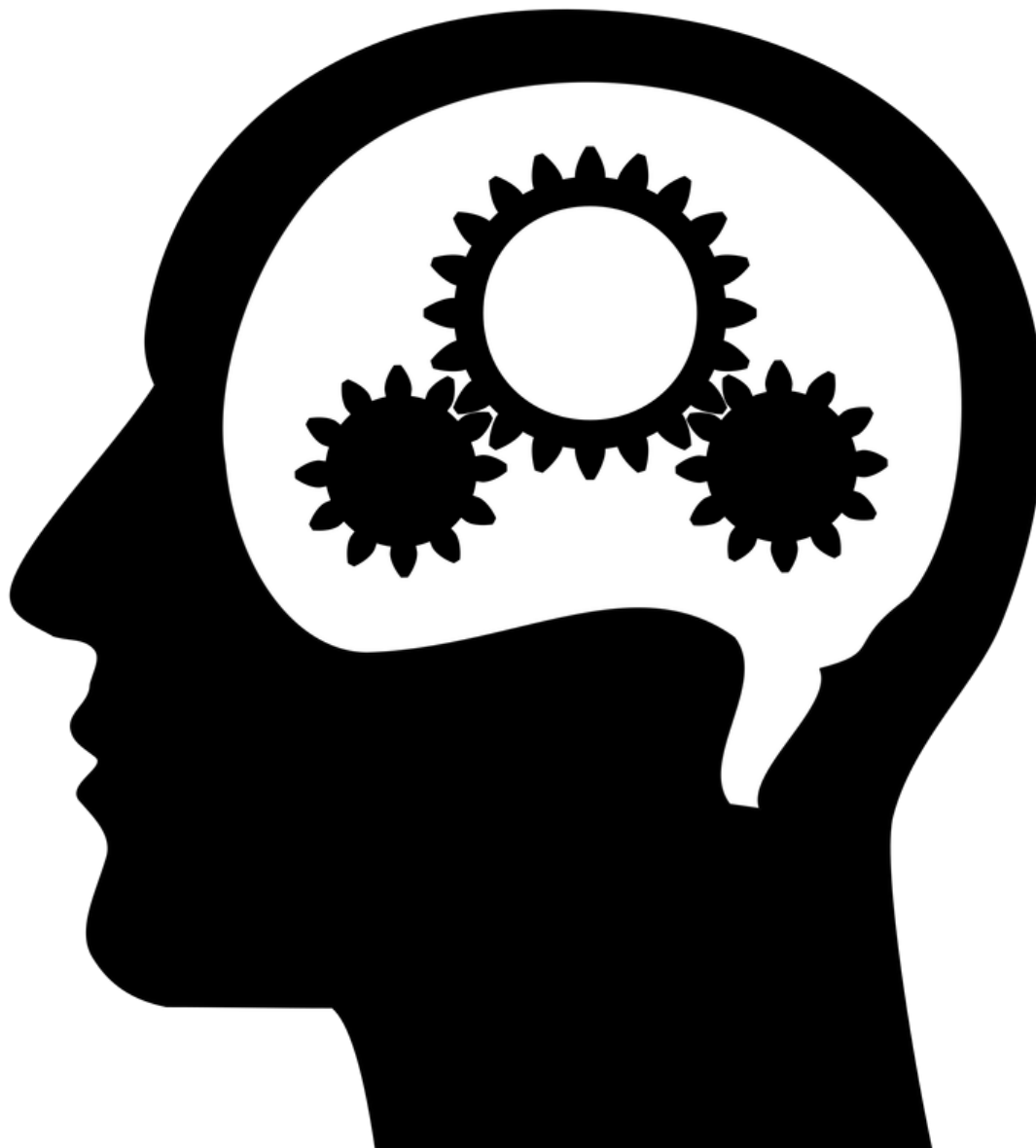
This project teaches children how living things on Earth have changed over time and how fossils provide evidence for this. They learn how characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring and how variation in offspring can affect their survival, with changes (adaptations) possibly leading to the evolution of a species.

History - Britain at War



This project teaches children about the causes, events and consequences of the First and Second World Wars, the influence of new inventions on warfare, how life in Great Britain was affected and the legacy of the wars in the post-war period.

PSHE - Relationships



During this topic the Giraffes will be learning how to build healthy relationships. They will learn: the importance of taking care of their mental health, stages of grief and different types of loss, how to recognise when people are trying to gain power or control, ways to judge whether something online is safe and helpful for me and how to use technology to communicate positively with others.

Religious Education



In this enquiry, the children explore whether beliefs in Karma, Samsara and Moksha help Sanatanis lead good lives?

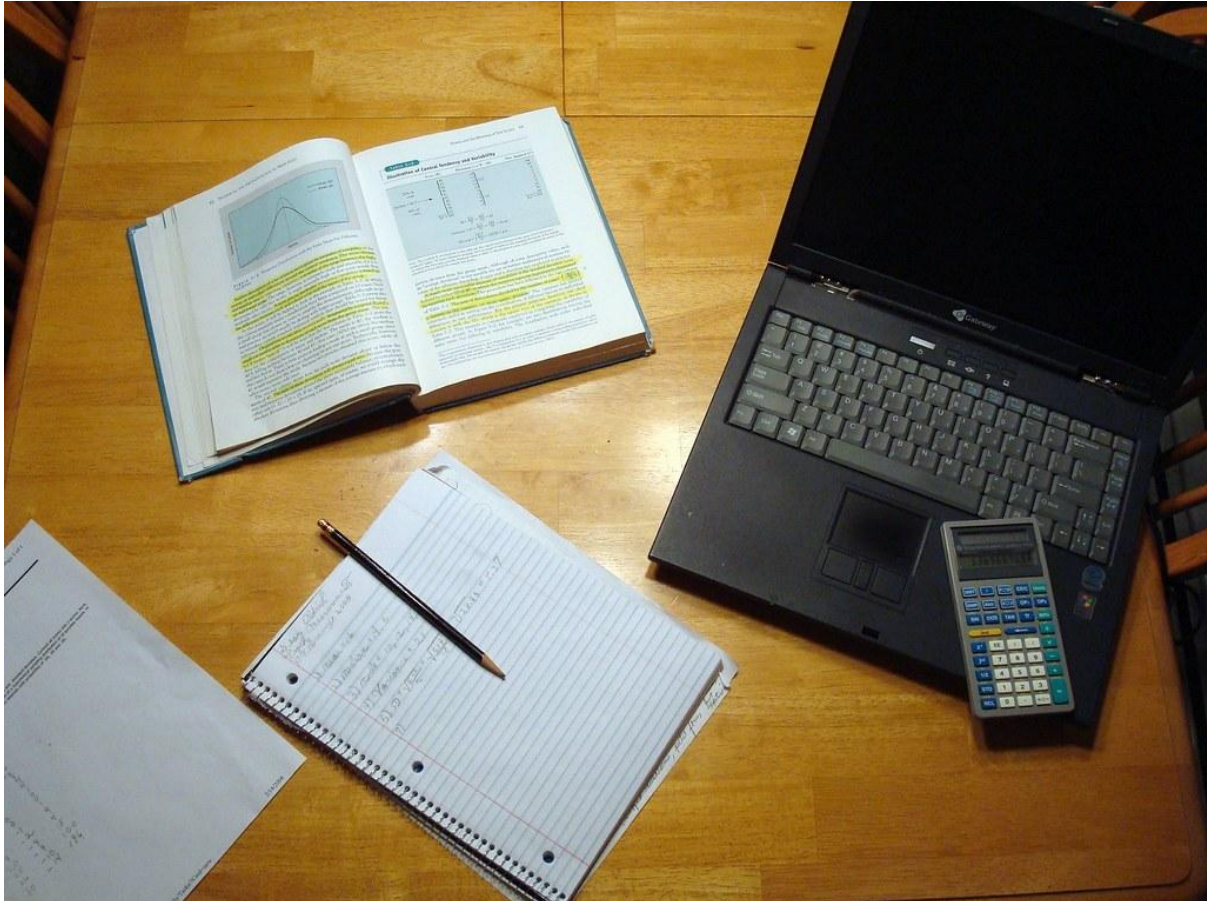
In this unit, the children look at the key beliefs concerning the cycle of life, death and rebirth. They consider the importance of doing good deeds.

They will consider and explore:

- What good actions could they do for others?*
- What might happen if they do good things?*

- Will it help them if they do good things?
 - Why is it important to not always expect a reward?
 - What do they think happens at the end of life?
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Homework



Your child is expected to read as much as possible at home during a week and will continue to earn dojos for their efforts!

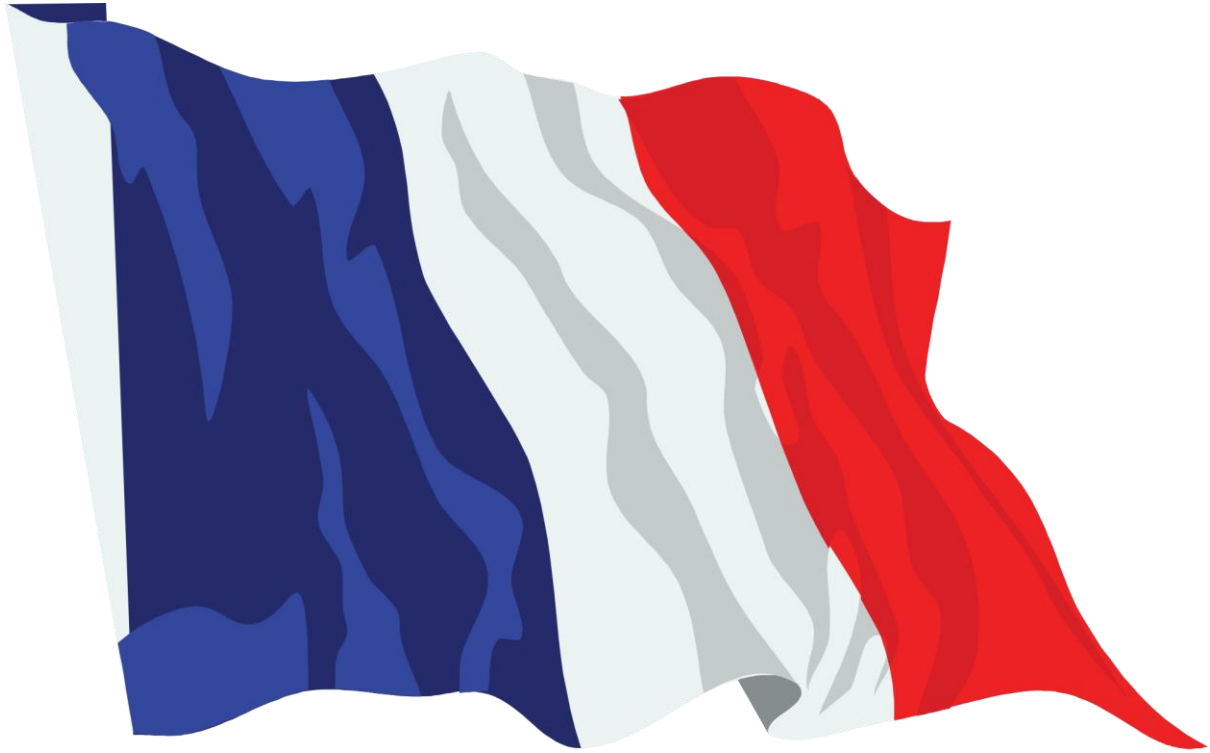
Please continue to access Times Tables Rock Stars and Spell Shed to support your child's learning at home.

There will be a spelling quiz each Friday.

The children will continue to receive homework for this half term - each child will be given two combinations of Maths, Reading or GPS homework (from the CGP books or in paper form) twice a week. The two activities should take approximately 20 mins altogether. This homework will be set on Mondays (for the next Friday) and Fridays (for the next Monday).

After the SATs, the focus of home learning will shift from the CGP books to a homework project linked to our topic of Britain at War. There will not be a homework project set this half term due to SATs practise.

French



The two topics studied this term, along with French phonics, will be: Celebration of French at Cheddington.

Music



Reflect, Rewind and Replay is the title of our project this term. Giraffes will be looking back on the songs and music that they have studied this year.

Madagascar

This year, Giraffes are very excited to be putting on the production: Disney's Madagascar. The performance will take place on Monday 13th July, 5pm at The Cottesloe School.

Auditions are being held the week after SATs week. More information to follow.

SATs Week



The SATs timetable is as follows:

Monday 11th May - Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling papers

Tuesday 12th May - Reading paper

Wednesday 13th May - Maths papers 1 & 2

Thursday 14th May - Maths paper 3

Pupils are invited into school at 8:15am each morning during the SATs Week to enjoy a delicious breakfast! Please can children come to the office and I will collect them from there :)

Recommended reading



1 - *Light (Foxton Primary Science)*_Nichola Tyrrell

*All About Light (All About Physics)*_Leon Gray

*Light (Science in Action)*_

*Life Through Time: The 700-Million-Year Story of Life on Earth*_John Woodward

*Charles Darwin (Extraordinary Scientists)*_Anita Croy
Our Hairy Past:

*Evolution and Life on Earth*_Nancy Dickmann



2 - *The World Wars (Usborne)*_ Paul Dowswell

*World War I (DK Eyewitness)*_

*The First World War (Usborne History of Britain)*_Henry Brook

*Frightful First World War (Horrible Histories)*_Terry Deary and Martin Brown

*You Wouldn't Want to Be in the Trenches in World War One!*_Alex Woolf

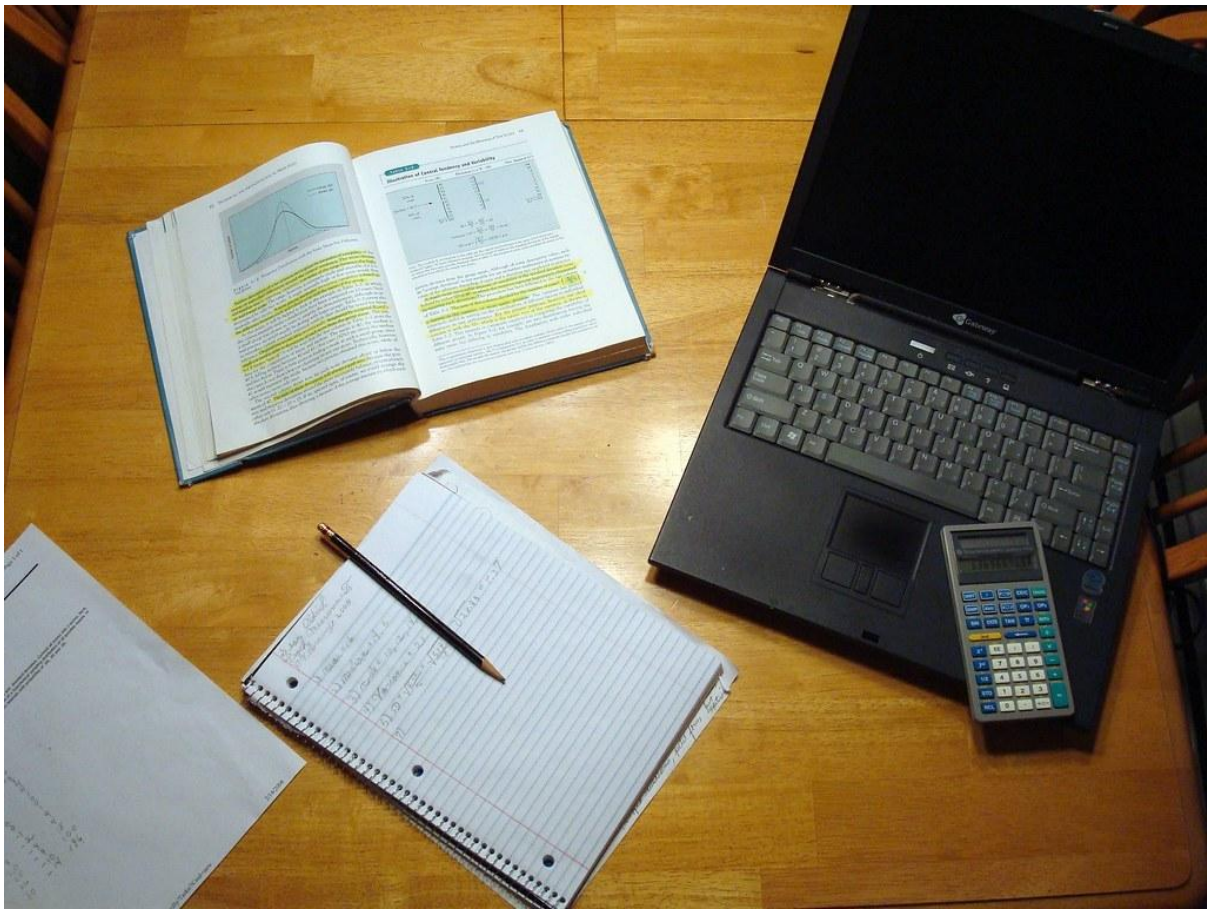
*World War II (DK Eyewitness)*_

*The Second World War (Usborne History of Britain)*_Henry Brook

*Woeful Second World War (Horrible Histories)*_Terry Deary and Martin Brown

*Timeline of the Second World War*_Simon Adams

Websites to support learning



<https://trockstars.com/>

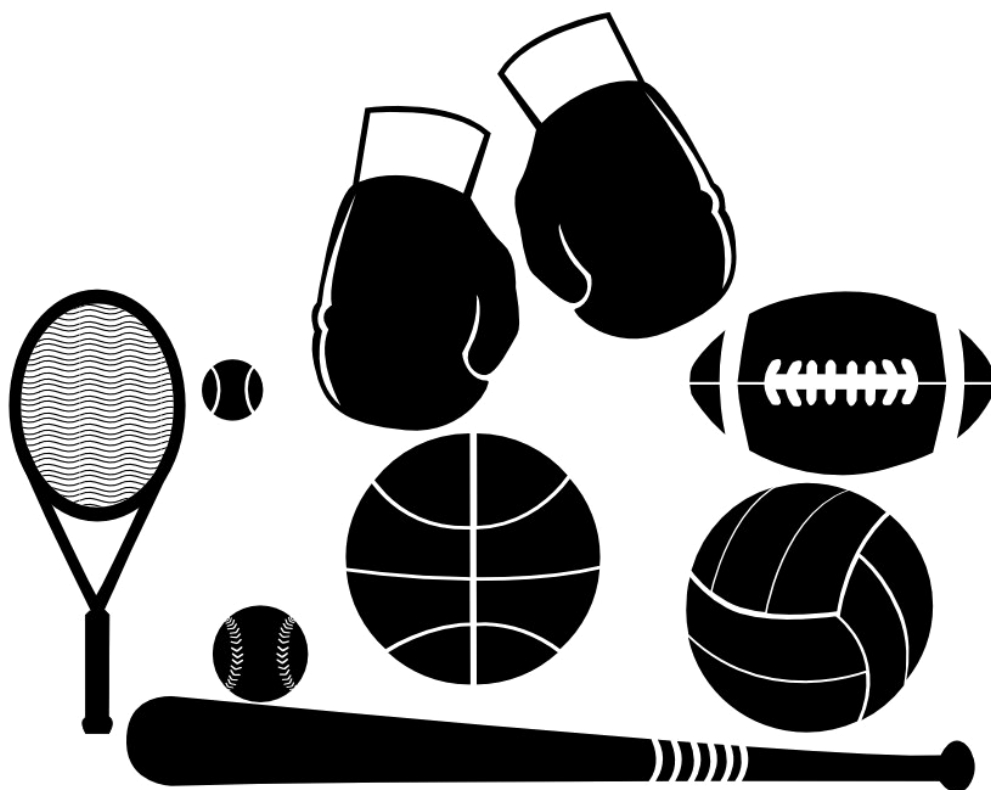
www.spellshed.com

<https://nrich.maths.org/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>



During this term we will be focusing on Tennis and Athletics.

KS2 (Elephants, Tigers, Flamingos and Giraffes). Trainers for outdoor PE. Tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt in navy or black.

For health and safety reasons, all children will have bare feet for dance and gymnastics. Please contact the class teacher if your child has a medical condition which affects their feet.

Please note that children are not allowed to wear nail varnish, false eye lashes, eyelash extensions, make up or dye their hair (temporary or permanent) for school. Earrings if worn must be studs and on PE days must be covered with tape or removed. Long hair must be tied back at all times at school.

Equipment



Your child will need to bring in a water bottle and have the following kept in a pencil case:

- *pencils*
 - *ruler*
 - *rubber*
 - *pencil sharpener*
 - *glue stick*
 - *pencil case*
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(These items can be purchased from the school office) These items will be very useful for your child to have:

- *A small dictionary (to keep on their desk)*
 - *Highlighters*
 - *Colouring pencils*
 - *Scissors*
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Contacting school



If you need to contact a class teacher please use the year6@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk email address. This email address is not monitored throughout the school day so if there is an urgent message that needs our attention please email admin@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk. We aim to reply to message to the class email address within 48hours.

The school telephone number is: 01296 668324
