



Giraffe (Year 6) Autumn Term Newsletter



English



Over the term we will be giving the children a variety of opportunities to enhance their skills of reading, composition, spelling, punctuation and grammar as outlined in their age-related curriculum. Our first class novel is 'Cameron Battle and the Hidden Kingdoms' by Jamar J Perry, which is a fictional fantasy 'portal' story following a boy as he struggles with the pressure he faces being the only one powerful enough to save a Kingdom. We will also be studying Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly which is a beautifully illustrated picture book. This text explores the story of four female African American mathematicians at NASA and how they overcame gender and racial barriers to succeed in a highly challenging STEM-based career. Pupils will read, discuss and identify the key writing features and use it as a model and inspiration for writing including narrative writing, biographical writing and non-chronological reports. In reading, the children will develop their skills in retrieval, inference and deduction, using texts to reference their responses.

Maths

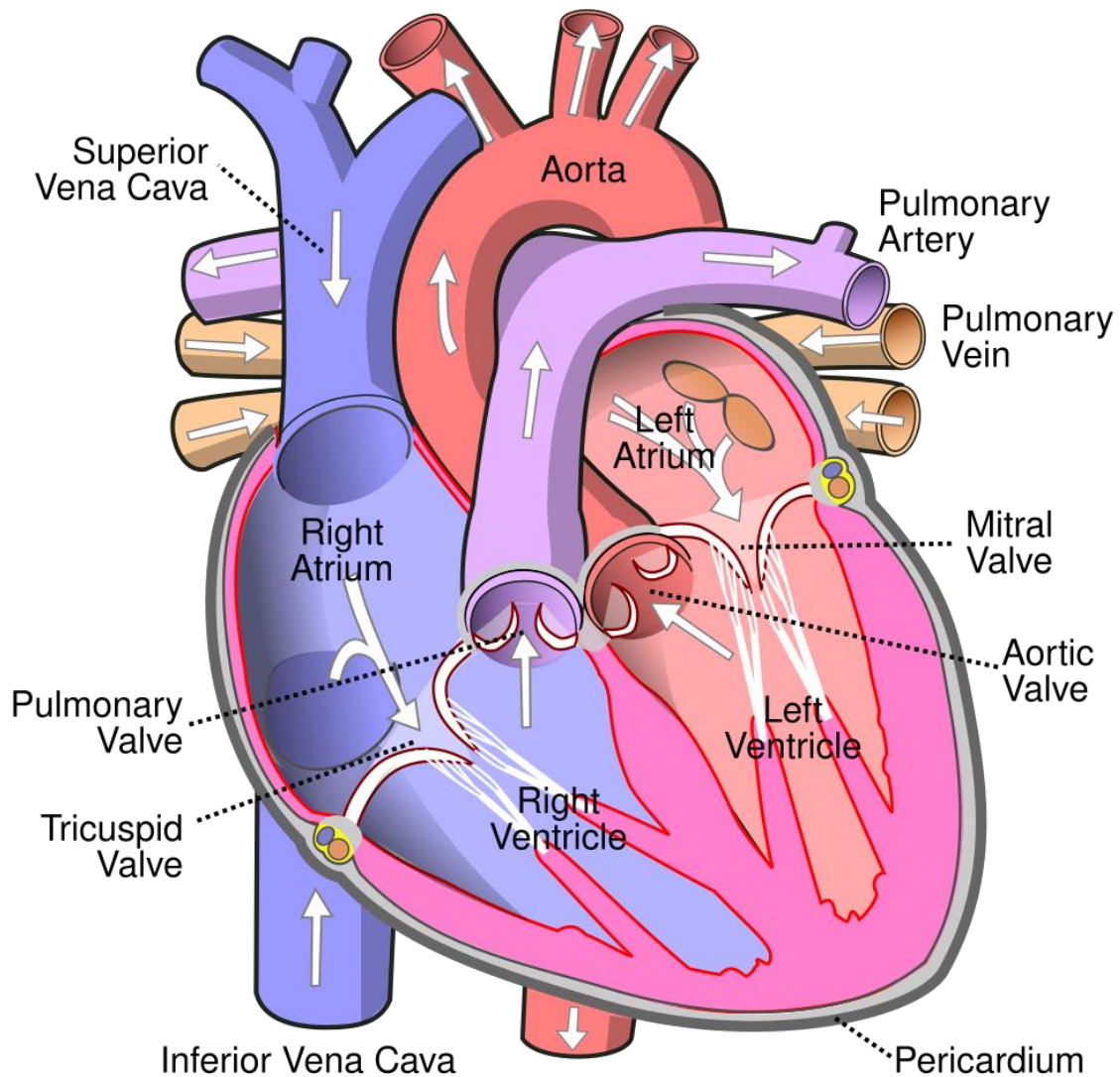


In mathematics we will be covering all areas of the curriculum with a specific focus on place value, the written methods of calculations that we use higher up in Key Stage 2, including mathematical reasoning. A significant amount of time is spent reinforcing number in order to build competency and ensure children can confidently access the rest of the curriculum.

Children should have the opportunity to work with physical objects/concrete resources, in order to bring the maths to life and to build understanding of what they are doing. Alongside concrete resources, children should work with pictorial representations, making links to the concrete. Visualising a problem in this way can help children to reason and to solve problems.

It is imperative that children are secure on their times tables in Year 6, and we would encourage you to practise using Times Tables Rock Stars as much as possible.

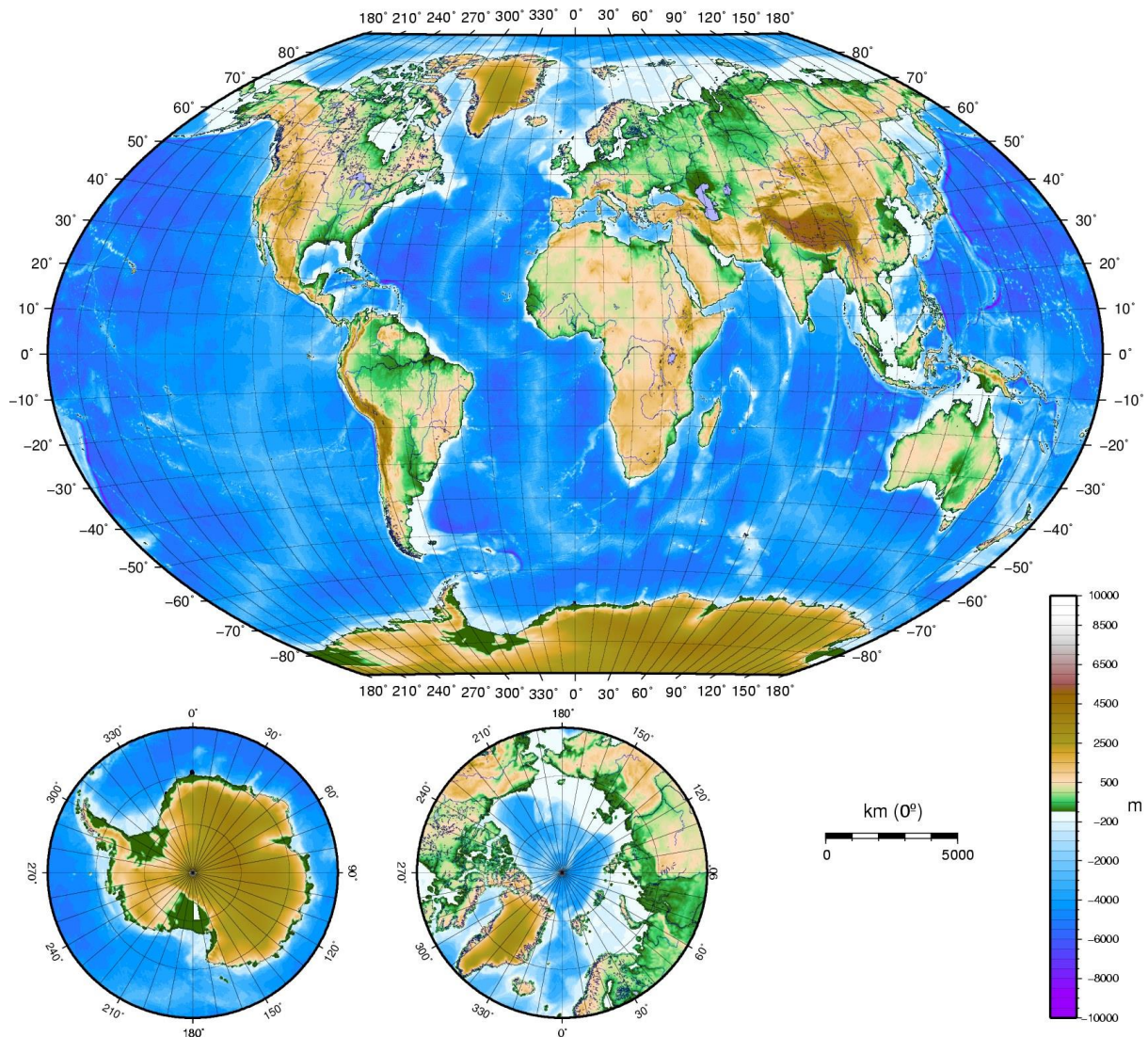
Science



In the Circulatory System project, your child will revisit prior learning about the systems in the human body and the seven life processes. They will explore the role of the circulatory system and its main parts, carrying out research to answer their own questions. They will look closely at the structure, functions and features of the heart. They will learn about the components and functions of blood, making a representation of a separated blood sample.

They will draw and label diagrams of each type of blood vessel and learn about their structure and function. They will test their resting heart rate using a variety of methods. They will investigate whether having a lower resting heart rate means you can sprint faster. They will recap the four types of exercise and test which raise their heart rate the most. They will recap what they know about healthy eating and the Eatwell guide, exploring foods that fall outside the Eatwell plate and recommended daily amounts of foods. They will research the effects of smoking, alcohol and drugs on the human body. They will complete their learning by carrying out an investigation into heart rate recovery.

Foundation subjects



During Geography, the Our Changing World project, your child will revise the features of the Earth and learn more about time zones. They will recall how to use lines of latitude and longitude to pinpoint places on a world map and learn about map scale. They will measure distances on a map and revisit grid references, contour lines and map symbols. Your child will learn about global warming and climate change and discover how climate change and extreme weather affect people worldwide. They will learn about global trade and find out about the export of manufactured goods, food or natural resources. Your child will analyse recent road traffic accident figures and carry out fieldwork to find out about the safety of a local road. They will study patterns of human settlements and carry out a fieldwork investigation to describe local settlement patterns. In History lessons this term, your child will learn about Africa today and the ancient kingdoms that thrived on the continent for thousands of years. They will learn about the origins of the transatlantic slave trade in the 15th century and Britain's involvement from the time of Elizabeth I, when John Hawkins

became the first British slave trader. Your child will understand the structure of the transatlantic slave trade and the consequences of enslavement for enslaved people. They will also discover how the people of Britain benefited from the money and goods produced by the slave trade. They will learn about the causes and consequences of the abolition of slavery in the 19th century, the worldwide African diaspora and the European colonisation in Africa.

They will explore the lives and actions of black people in 20th century Britain. They will understand how the Race Relations Act of 1965 became the first piece of British legislation to tackle racial discrimination and know that the Equality Act 2010 provides people with protection against racism and other forms of discrimination, today. Your child will also explore the lives of black people who have made significant contributions to Britain and will celebrate black culture in Britain today. These topics will run through into the Spring term.

RE & PSHE



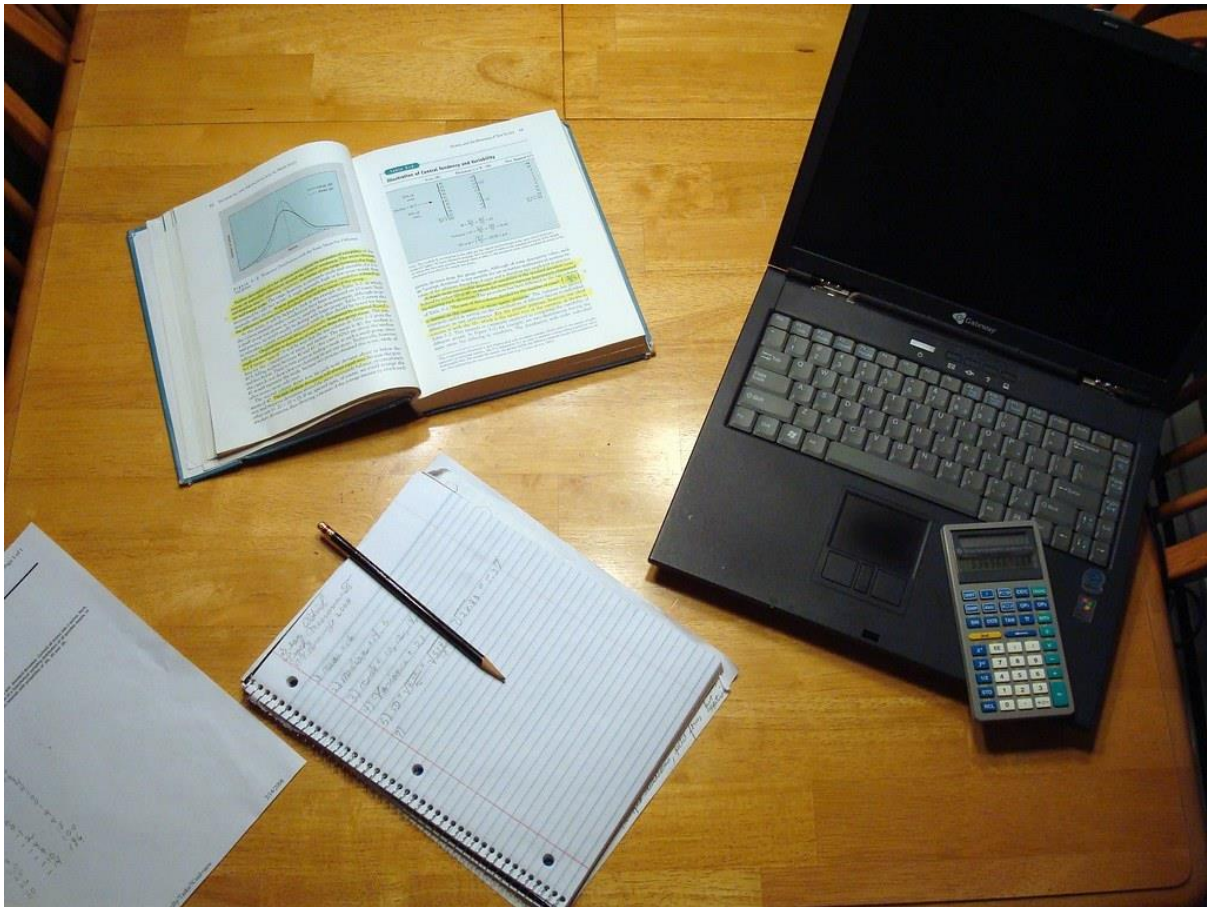
In this unit the children discuss their year ahead, they learn to set goals and discuss their fears and worries about the future. The class learn about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and that these are not met for all children worldwide. They talk about their choices and actions and how these can have far-reaching effects, locally and globally. The children talk about their own behaviour and how their choices can result in rewards and consequences and how these feel. They talk about individual behaviour and the impact it can have on a group. They also talk about democracy, how it benefits the school and how they can contribute towards it. They will establish the Jigsaw Charter for the class.

New key vocabulary to be introduced: Community, Education, Wants, Needs, Maslow, Empathy, Comparison, Opportunities, Empathise, Obstacles, Legal, Illegal, Lawful, Laws, Motivation.

In RE this term we will be learning more about Judaism and exploring the enquiry questions below:- What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God? How are sacred teachings and stories interpreted by Jews today?

New key vocabulary to be introduced: Shabbat, The Talmud, Orthodox, Reform, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Mitvoth, Tenakh, Torah.

Homework



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

In Year 6, pupils are expected to spend at least fifteen minutes per week practising their multiplication tables on Times Table Rock Stars. Spell Shed is a fantastic resource to help your child learn their spellings for the week. Log on regularly during the week to find spelling games that are linked to your child's spelling words. Year 6 will have maths task (set via My Maths) every other week. The online maths homework task will alternate every week with an online grammar activity - details about this coming soon!

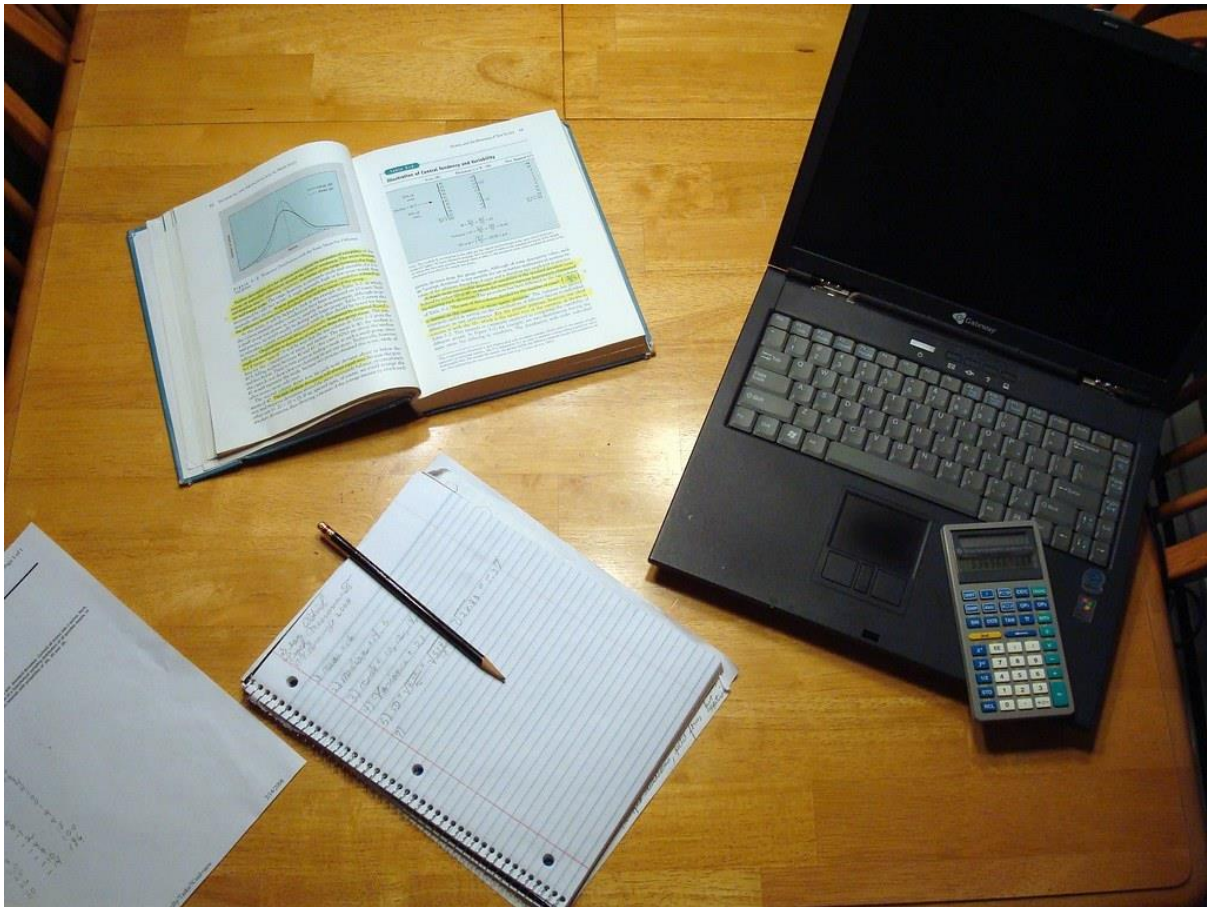
All logins are stuck into the front of your child's planner.

Your child will also be given an exciting homework project - this will be set next week. This project will be linked to your child's learning and will give them the freedom to respond in a wide range of wonderful ways! We are already so excited to see what they produce.

Recommended reading



Websites to support learning



<https://trockstars.com/>

www.spellshed.com

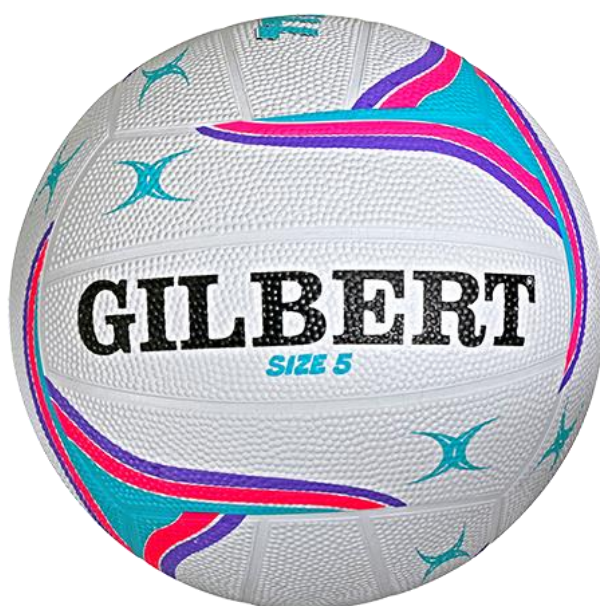
<https://nrich.maths.org/>

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

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

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

PE



During this term we will be focusing on Netball and Football. Your child will learning about the different passes in Netball whilst refining their skills of teamwork, marking and communication on the Netball court. During Football lessons you child will be practising ball control, passing, defending and intercepting.

PE Kit: Red shorts, house colour polo shirts.

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

Please note: Football boots and shin pads are required by those children who play in football club.

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
