



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Harrogate
a Voluntary Academy

Curriculum Newsletter for Year 6

Autumn 1 2026

Teachers: Mrs Keith (4 days) and Mrs Stockdale (1 day)
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Stockdale (4 days) and Mrs Riley (1 ½ days)

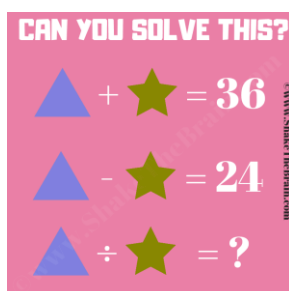
Maths



Number – Place Value

Number – Addition, subtraction, division and multiplication

We
♥
Maths



English



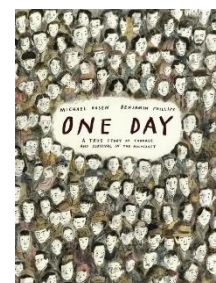
Novel Study

Complete Y5's novel, 'Cosmic'

'Front Desk' by Kelly Yang



Writing to inform Using Michael Rosen's moving book *One Day* as our inspiration, we will explore how writers communicate memories, thoughts and emotions. We will develop our understanding of viewpoint and voice before writing a diary entry and a letter.



Science

Living Things and their habitats

We will be describing how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants, and animals.

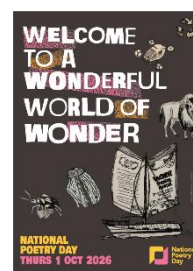
We will also be giving reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics, as well as finding out about Swedish botanist, Carl Linnaeus, and his classification system.



Writing to Persuade and Inform
Our English learning will connect with our work in geography and PSHE during Fairtrade Fortnight. We will investigate where familiar products come from and learn about the lives of farmers and workers in different parts of the world. We will use our research to write about fairness, responsibility and the impact of our everyday choices.

Writing to Entertain

To celebrate National Poetry Day and its 2026 theme, **Wonder**, we will enjoy listening to, performing and discussing a range of poetry. We will join Michael Rosen, the Hot Poets and young Poet Laureates for a special session filled with performance, conversation and participation.



Reading - Key reading objectives covered through personal reading, guided reading and higher order reading skills taught through comprehension.

Handwriting taught systematically and discretely.

Spelling and grammar taught daily focusing on a theme over the week.

Catholic Life and Mission

✚ Our Catholic Identity and Mission

During our first week back, we will explore how our patron, **St Joseph**, inspires our school vision, "*Let all that you do be done in love*," and our virtues of **gratitude, humility, courage and service**.

We will also learn about our Year 6 class saint, **St Carlo Acutis**, discovering how he devoted his life to Jesus, especially through his love of the Eucharist. Inspired by his ordinary yet faith-filled life, we will reflect on how we too can follow Jesus and use our gifts to serve others.



👤 Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer and worship are at the heart of our life together. This term, Year 6 will participate in and help to lead:

- **Start-of-Year Mass:** Friday 18th September at 9:30am
- **Autumn Term Class Masses:** Thursdays 8th October, 12th November and 10th December at 9:15am
- 🌾 **Mini Vinnie Harvest Celebration:** Date to be confirmed
- ✚ **House Prayer Stations:** Children will gather in their house groups and visit four prayer stations dedicated to our House Saints: St Margaret Clitherow, St Hilda, St Bede and St John Fisher.
- 🛒 **Prayer and Play Kit:** A special Prayer and Play Kit will be available during playtimes, giving children opportunities to pause and pray spontaneously, either individually or with friends. Using simple prayer resources, children can bring their joys, worries, hopes and thanks to Jesus, knowing that he is always ready to listen.

Through these experiences, we will encounter Christ, grow in faith and be sent out to live what we have celebrated.

🌍 Catholic Social Teaching: Faith in Action

Our learning and service this term will be shaped by **Catholic Social Teaching**, which helps us understand how God calls us to treat one another, care for creation and work for the good of all.

♥ Human Dignity and Solidarity: Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Wednesday 23rd September — wear green to school

We will stand alongside people and families affected by cancer, recognising the dignity of every person and showing that no one should face difficulty alone. We will hold a coffee and cake afternoon to raise money for Macmillan.

🍏 Preferential Option for the Poor: Harvest and Foodbank Fridays

Through our Harvest collection and Foodbank Fridays, we will support local families experiencing hardship. If your family is able to contribute, please send in one suitable item for Harrogate District Foodbank on Friday. Together, our small acts of love can make a meaningful difference.



👥 The Common Good and Participation: Friendship Group

Later this term, we will put our faith into action by visiting the Friendship Group, run by Catholic Care in our parish hall. By listening, talking and spending time with members of our parish community, we will help to build friendship, belonging and the common good. Dates will be confirmed.

🏡 Our Parish Family

Our visits, Masses and acts of service remind us that St Joseph's School is part of a much wider family of faith. We look forward to strengthening our relationship with St Joseph's Parish, Catholic Care and members of our local community throughout the term.



Creation and Covenant

RE

In our *Creation and Covenant* unit, we will explore the second account of Creation in Genesis, including Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and the first sin, known as the Fall. We will interpret the symbolism within the account and consider how harmony between God, humanity and creation becomes disrupted. By reflecting on the question, “**Why is the world as it is?**”, we will deepen our understanding of God, stewardship and human relationships. Finally, we will explore how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus restore humanity’s relationship with God through the new covenant.



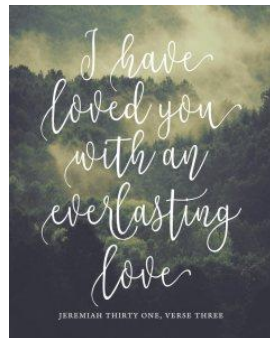
Personal Development

RHE

Calming the Storm

PSHE

Establishing positive relationships
Rules, expectations and goal setting.
Emotional Literacy - TGMC



Virtues to Live By
Love of Learning
Citizenship

Online Safety – Ongoing



Be Internet Legends Back to School Assembly (from Parent Zone and Google) Exploring the skills and behaviours that can help children have a better time online. **15th September**

Be Internet Legends ‘Secure’ Assembly This new assembly teaches the key skills and behaviours to explore online more confidently **29th September**

Be Internet Legends Learning about AI (Artificial Intelligence) Assembly Explaining what 'artificial intelligence' is, where it can be found and how it works. **15th October**

We’re using **Picture News** to explore current events, helping children develop critical thinking, respectful discussion skills, and an understanding of British Values and global rights.

French

Review Years 3-5

During this half-term, we will revise vocabulary from topics covered in French lessons over the last 3 years including: greetings, numbers, age, date, birthday, colours, family, animals/pets, where I live, weather, school subjects, sports & leisure, and emotions.



Music

Fingal’s Cave – Felix Mendelssohn

We will appraise the work of a classical composer, Mendelssohn, before exploring pitch and dynamics where we will improvise as a group to create texture. We will end this topic by creating a group composition to create ‘waves’ featuring changes in texture, dynamics and pitch.



PE

Mondays – Hockey

Thursdays – Football

Come to school in PE Uniform.

Please ensure earrings are removed and long hair is tied back.



History

How did Britain change during and after World War II?

We will learn when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved. In addition to this, we will discover how British people were affected by the War and we will investigate how the lives of British people and Commonwealth changed after 1945.



Art and Design

Drawing: Expressing ideas

We will explore how drawing can be used to express ideas and messages, inspired by a range of street art examples and environmental themes.



Computing

Computing Systems and Networks

In this unit, we will learn about the World Wide Web as a communication tool. First, we will learn how we find information on the World Wide Web, through learning how search engines work (including how they select and rank results) and what influences searching, and through comparing different search engines. We will then investigate different methods of communication, before focusing on internet-based communication. Finally, we will evaluate which methods of internet communication to use for particular purposes.



Curriculum

Be Internet Legend Assemblies (see Personal Development section for details):

- Back to School Assembly
- 'Secure' Assembly
- AI assembly
- Be Internet Legends Day

Macmillan Wear Green Day and Coffee and Cake afternoon fundraiser Wednesday 23rd September 15:30-16:30

Open Days – Y6 to show visitors around Friday 2nd October, Monday 5th October, Saturday 14th November (10-12:30. Children to support in timed blocks)



Enrichment

Fairtrade Fortnight – 21st September – 4th October

Class Assemblies

Leadership in School - Friday 18th September 3pm
Herd Farm Trip Friday 16th October 3pm

National Poetry Day – Thursday 1st October

Residential trip to Herd Farm
7th October – 9th October 2025

Friendship Group Visits In groups, Y6 will take turns in visiting the Parish Friendship Group. They will play games, do crafts and make connections with people of our community. Dates for this term: to be confirmed. There will also be a whole class visit in December for Christmas Carolling.



Homework

Homework is given out by **Tuesday** and is due on the following **Monday**.

In Year 6, we have a weekly spelling/phonics focus of which we work on every morning. There is an informal spelling check on Fridays based on the words your child has chosen to practise.

Y6 Parents/Carers Information Evening

TBC

Herd Farm Parents/Carers Meeting

Thursday 24th September

Parents Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 20th October

Wednesday 21st October

Thank You
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

To help your child at home, you could:

- Read with your child.
- Support with their homework
- Practise times tables and division facts.
- Come to Mass to support your child as they continue to receive Holy Communion and prepare for Confirmation.



St. Joseph's
Gratitude Humility Service
Harrogate

Together for a brighter tomorrow

ST JOSEPH'S, HARROGATE

EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

MACMILLAN

COFFEE & CAKE AFTERNOON

WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

3:30-4:30pm • SCHOOL HALL

Join us for coffee, cake and good company!

GOOD CAKES BRIGHTER DAYS

Coffee Kindness Community

CHILDREN: WEAR GREEN
Children may come to school dressed in green in return for a donation.

HOW TO HELP
Please donate money, cakes or biscuits for our fundraiser.

EVERY DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

St. Joseph's
Gratitude Humility Service
Harrogate

People Products Planet

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2026

21 SEPTEMBER-4 OCTOBER

FAIRTRADE
A fairer brighter tomorrow

A FAIRER WORLD TOGETHER

BANANAS

COCOA

COFFEE

COTTON

DISCOVER
Where our everyday products come from

UNDERSTAND
The challenges faced by farmers and workers

CHOOSE
How fairer trade can support people and our planet

FAIRTRADE BAKING FOR MACMILLAN

Can your family bake cakes or biscuits using Fairtrade ingredients?

CHOOSE FAIRTRADE • SUPPORT MACMILLAN • BE THE CHANGE!