



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
Beech Park, West Hill, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1UQ
01404 812599
admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk
Acting Headteacher: Rob Pantling



CLASS 6 SUMMER TERM CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

1st May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term. It has been lovely to see everyone again after the Easter break. The children have returned full of interest and enthusiasm for what lies ahead!

The Summer term is usually full of wonderful activities for Class 6 and we will do our very best to ensure that they have a fabulous end to their time at West Hill. They certainly deserve it.

Curriculum

In **English**, we will have been focusing on 'Shackleton's Journey'. We have been learning to apply different reading comprehension techniques while finding out about Shackleton's transatlantic expedition on The Endurance, as well as writing diary entries from the perspective of one of the crew members.

Examples of Tier 2 language this term: yield, merciless, resolute, wilderness, beset, perilous, falter, endure.

We will then focus on two main units: 'The Lost Words' and 'The Highway Man'. Through both units we will continue to develop our vocabulary, sentence structures and punctuation skills in a range of text types.

We will be writing our own animal-based poetry, inspired by the beautiful text 'The Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. The end product will be a class collection of poems, with each child contributing a poem and watercolour painting of their chosen animal or plant.

Finally, the children will explore Alfred Noyes' 'The Highway Man' by performing the poem and exploring the story as told from different perspectives.

We will finish the year by creating our Class 6 Yearbook, recounting our favourite memories of our time at West Hill.

In **Maths**, we will continue to place emphasis on the four operations ensuring that all children have a sound knowledge of these before moving on to their next school. There will also be a strong emphasis on problem solving this term so that they can apply their knowledge in a variety of problems. After half-term, we will give the children a maths project to work on in pairs where they will design their own theme park within a given budget. Here they will continue to use all four operations and use their understanding of shape, space and measure but they will also learn about budgets, profit and loss as well. This will link to our DT project of designing and building our own Lego fairground rides.



Our **History** topic for this term is 'The World Wars'. We will be looking at the cause and effect of these conflicts and their impact locally, nationally and globally. This will include their impact on children in WWII, such as evacuation, and also impact on Exeter through damage and rebuilding.

In **Science**, we are continuing to learn about Evolution and Inheritance. Within this topic, the children will look at how animals and plants have adapted to suit their environments, how we can learn about evolution through fossils and they will also study Charles Darwin. We will continue to develop our practical science skills too and the children will be investigating the habitats of fossilised creatures (we encourage children to bring any in that they may have at home) as well as different beak shapes. After this, we will move on to a much more practical topic of Electricity where we will make a variety of circuits for different purposes and develop children's prior knowledge of symbols, conductors and insulators.

In **RE**, we start to consider the theme: For Christians, what kind of King was Jesus? Within this theme we will find out about parables from the Bible, learn about the different ways that Christians may interpret these texts and explore how believers put their beliefs into practice in a variety of ways.

In **PE**, Alex Clements, from Ottery St Mary Cricket Club, will be delivering our weekly cricket sessions with Class 6 every Tuesday. We will also continue to develop a range of skills in athletics on a Friday.

In **PSHE** this term, we will be starting our lessons using the Jigsaw scheme (as communicated previously). We will begin by focusing on 'Healthy Me' in the first half term, followed by 'Changing Me' in the second half term. Please see the attached 'Knowledge Organisers' for further information on the knowledge and social and emotional skills which will be focused on in each unit, as well as useful vocabulary. If you would like access to the resources which will be used by your child's class teacher during lessons, please email the school office, who will provide you with a 'Parent Access Code'. This will enable you to view the resources on the Jigsaw website, which is password protected.

In **Art**, we will be learning about 'Pop Art' of the 1960s by studying the work of Andy Warhol and David Hockney in response to the Impressionist movement that went before. The children will be using a range of media to replicate specific pieces, including using acrylic to recreate Warhol's 'Campbell Soup' and Hockney's 'A Bigger Splash' and using computer software to create a modern version of Warhol's 'Marilyn Diptych', featuring the celebrity or mass-produced item of their choosing!

In **French**, we will revise vocabulary and phrases using our online resource 'Language Angels', which the children can also access at home. Our focus this half term is 'Les Vikings'.

In **Computing**, we will make our own Google Slides presentations in response to our learning about The World Wars, as well as coding using the Lego Wedo / Lego Spike software to program motors for our Lego Fairground.

In **Design Technology**, we will be using Lego Wedo 2.0 / Lego Spike to design, make and evaluate our own working fairground ride.

SATs 2026 – Week Beginning Monday 11th May

The children will be supported in the build-up to the End of Key Stage 2 SATs. We will use some of the time beforehand to revisit important areas we have covered, and to help tackle any misconceptions and allay any concerns. We will not be putting 'pressure' on the children to perform, and the class have already shown in practice papers that they cope well with such tasks. Of course, sufficient rest before the tests will help your child come into school feeling refreshed and ready to do their best.

- **Monday 11th May:** Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling - Paper 1 Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling - Paper 2

- **Tuesday 12th May:** English Reading
- **Wednesday 13th May:** Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)
- **Thursday 14th May:** Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Summer Show

The children will soon start to rehearse for their summer show, 'The Jungle Book'. We have already begun to practise some of the songs and have been blown away by the children's efforts so far. Auditions will take place in school before half term. We will then send out further details about costumes etc.

This year, the show will take place at 10am and 6pm on Thursday 2nd July (more details to follow in due course). The children are very keen to start rehearsing and have been looking forward to this all year.

Sideshore Project Trip

We are delighted to let you know that Class 6 will be taking part in the Sideshore Project again this year. This event will take place on Monday 8th June at Sideshore, Exmouth. This will be an amazing opportunity for the children to develop skills in PE, PSHE, Art and Science through various activities including sea swimming. **If possible, the children will need to bring an old, light-coloured t-shirt (to be upcycled during the art workshop).** More details will follow nearer the time.

Leavers' Assembly

We would like to invite you to watch the children's final assembly at West Hill. This will take place on Wednesday 22nd July at 10:00am in the village hall. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to have some light refreshments.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have given your children during their time in Class 6. We certainly will miss this class when they move on to secondary school.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Pedley & Mr S Netherway