

Year 6 Newsletter

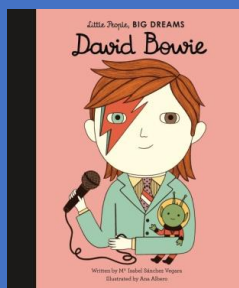


Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Spring Term 2

Monday 23rd February to
Friday 27th March 2026

**Theme - Amazing Audenshaw
Little People, Big Dreams Focus: David Bowie**



What will we read this half term?



'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare

Lightning flashes and thunder rolls. Macbeth is riding home from battle when he meets three strange old women who tell him that he will be King, which is impossible... unless Macbeth is prepared to kill.

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

English



This term, we will be exploring texts written by the famous William Shakespeare. Focusing mainly on the story of Macbeth where we will be working out the characters personalities, their motives and their behaviour, as well as trying to understand some more difficult vocabulary from the Elizabethan period. In addition to this, we shall also be reading a little bit of 'The Tempest' and briefly looking at the life and times of Shakespeare, and the historical context behind his work.



In addition to writing extended pieces in class, based on the works of William Shakespeare, we will be developing the following skills for spelling, punctuation and grammar:

- Starting and ending paragraphs effectively - using techniques such as flashbacks and the use of 'in media res.'
- Using the subjunctive form in sentences.
- Relative clauses.

In Year 6, we also consolidate objectives from all previous year groups and ensure that our children have a solid depth of understanding these various skills. For example: we revisit rules and conventions of spellings from Years 3, 4 and 5, such as apostrophe use, and spellings derived from other cultures, e.g. Latin and Greek. In addition to this, as we are looking at the work of William Shakespeare, we will be making deliberate vocabulary choices within our own writing, with words taken from old English, and words which were created by Shakespeare himself, for example: lacklustre, frugal, dauntless, sonnet, tragedy, etc.

We will also be engaging in SATs preparation in time for the tests, which will take place on the week beginning **Monday 11th May**.

Maths

Throughout year 6, there will be a strong focus on problem solving activities, and the children will develop a wide range of problem-solving strategies, and they will be supported in developing efficient and logical methods to organise and record their work.

In this half term, we will be looking at fractions, decimals and percentages, and area, perimeter and volume.

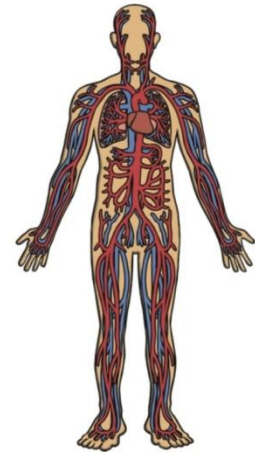
We have already explored common equivalents between fractions and decimals in Year 5. Over the Spring, we will be extending this learning to include more complex equivalents. A hundred square is a useful representation to allow children to explore equivalence. Using fraction and decimal walls will also enable children to see the relationship between fractions such as $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{2}{10}$ and therefore their decimal equivalents. We will also be looking at methods for finding more complex equivalents by finding a common denominator of 100. These should include examples where children need to simplify fractions with larger denominators, for example $\frac{146}{200}$.

With perimeter and area, we will be finding the areas of shapes by counting squares and then identifying shapes which have the same area. It should become clear, over time, that shapes can look different but still have the same area. Rectilinear shapes are included here. Children will then explore instances when multiplication can be used to find the areas of shapes. They should begin to identify rectangles that will have the same area by using factor pairs rather than relying on counting squares. They can also use factor pairs to draw rectangles that have the same area.

Science

Throughout this term, our children will learn about the workings of the bodies of animals, including humans. This unit recaps the children's learning from Year 4 about how animals survive and stay healthy, and will learn even more about how different organ systems work. This unit will emphasise the importance of diet, exercise and lifestyle in the way that bodies function. We will look at the three main parts of the circulatory system and the job of the heart. The children will then go on to learn about what blood is comprised of and how it is transported all around the body. This will include an investigation to explore how heart rate is affected by exercise, including a discussion on how to plan a fair test and measure and record accurately. Our children will then learn the importance of exercise and conduct a survey to find the most popular exercise in their class. They will apply their understanding by discussing different people's lifestyles and how this can affect their bodies. Finally, we shall learn about drugs and alcohol and how they can have an impact on our bodies, specifically in relation to the circulatory system.

Your Circulatory System



Research Topic

This half term, Year 6 will be exploring historical significance through the fascinating theme of banknotes and the people featured on them. Using examples such as the Bank of England and the individuals shown on British currency, pupils will learn how money can tell us stories about important people from the past. We will examine how and why certain figures are chosen to appear on banknotes and what this reveals about their impact on history.

Throughout the unit, children will investigate a range of historically significant individuals, which may include figures such as Winston Churchill, Jane Austen and Alan Turing. They will use banknotes and other historical sources to ask questions, draw conclusions and build a deeper understanding of each person's achievements and legacy.



The children will end the unit by choosing an inspirational person from British History to be on the next £50 bank note. Pupils will work in pairs to create a presentation about why their historical figure has contributed to British life, impacted science or even overcame adversity and ultimately why they should be chosen. At the end, we will have a class vote on who we all believe should be chosen for the banknote!

Geography

We began to look at geographical skills and fieldwork (map and compasses) during the last half term. This half term, we aim to build upon this knowledge by investigating our local area and region, which will include fieldwork. We will be looking at the layout of Audenshaw and how this has been shaped over time. Later this school year, we intend to visit Daisy Nook to investigate the cross section of a river and some further geographical investigations.



Art

In art lessons this term, the children will be exploring graffiti and street art. The overall theme of the work is 'Making Our Voices Heard.' We will be questioning the purpose and place of street art – prompting discussion and justifying views and opinion on what art actually is. In sketchbooks, children will begin to think about how they could create a powerful drawn image to shout about their chosen passion, cause or issue.

We will be asking the following questions of them:

- Will our work have bold colour – if so, what will these be?
- Will symbols be included to express meaning?
- Will the image draw inspiration from a particular style, like patterns from the Maya or another artist we have looked at?
- Will it include dramatic light and dark shades, or will the piece be tonal and use just one colour?



PSHE

We are focused upon 'Keeping Healthy' in PSHE.

We made a start on this work when we made our way through our previous Science unit. This half term, we are looking at ways in which we can make good lifestyle choices, and keep our hearts healthy. We will be looking at the importance of a balanced diet and regular exercise, whilst teaching about the long-term impact that drugs, cigarettes and alcohol can have.

Computing

During the next few weeks, we will be using Google Earth and Google Earth Studio to plan a world trip. We will make decisions about where to go and how to get there and use the software to help us plan a realistic itinerary. There will be a chance to produce information sheets that will highlight the sights and sounds – similar to a travel brochure and a video too.

Music

All the work in music this term is based around the song, 'You've Got A Friend' by Carole King. The idea is that we will focus on the subject of friendship in music, and get to appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians. This will include commenting on, and giving opinions about music, all of which may be different to what the children normally listen to. We shall also be continuing our theme of the 'New Year Carol.'

P.E.

This half term P.E. lessons will usually take place on Mondays, however – we may have additional lessons if we can find suitable opportunities. P.E. sessions this half term will be based on dancing and further health related exercise. We will also be focusing on understanding what makes an effective leader and communicating as a leader.

Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school all week.

Design and Technology

Our focus will be food technology, and the theme will be 'Come Dine With Me'. The children will have to plan and devise a healthy three-course meal. We will work in small groups and focus on three key ingredients, in an attempt to devise the best class recipe. We will explore the farm to fork process for each key ingredient.



By the end of the unit, pupils will be able to:

- Find a suitable recipe for their course.
- Record the relevant ingredients and equipment needed.
- Follow a recipe, including using the correct quantities of each ingredient.
- Write a recipe, explaining the process taken.
- Explain where certain key foods come from before they appear on the supermarket shelf.

M.F.L.

This half term our French topic is all about 'The Weekend'. In this unit pupils will learn 10 phrases for activities they may do at the weekend in French. They will also be presented with further extensions on telling the time and opinions and justifications. Pupils will have the knowledge and skills to talk about what they do at the weekend, enabling them to create more detailed and personalised responses by the end of the unit.



Homework

Continuing to encourage your child to read frequently at home and to develop a love of reading is the best way you can support your child's education. We will hand out reading books for the children in the first week back, and we expect our children to read regularly throughout the spring term. We would like your child to get back into the habit of reading books (if they are not doing so already) for 15-20 minute sessions every day, and record any sessions in their reading records, which will be collected and checked at regular intervals. Any type of reading activity can count (e.g. school reading book, free reads, newspapers/magazines, comics, audiobooks, etc). In addition to this, your child will have a log-in for Reading Plus, which is a fantastic online scheme of work which the children can progress through at home, whenever they like. We have seen some great progress already from using Reading Plus and we would greatly encourage engaging with the texts and activities on there.

Don't forget that – in addition to Reading Plus, we have provided log-on details for your children to access past SATs papers for additional practice in reading and maths (SPAG.com, maths.co.uk, in addition to Interactive Resources, a website that we use in maths lessons.

In addition to this, you may find the following websites useful:

Arithmetic Papers on Maths Bot www.mathsbot.com

'Guardians Of Mathematica' <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zn2y7nb>

'Crystal Explorers' (SPAG) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbm8scw>

We shall also be continuing with our weekly SATs booster groups this term – these will be at the same time as they were last half term.

Your child will receive spellings every Friday, which will be tested on the following Friday. Please help your child to practise their spellings at least three times each week.

We will also hand out two pieces of homework – one for English and one for maths – each and every Friday, and request that the homework is handed back in on the following Thursday to your child's teacher to check.

SAT's prep is vital over the coming weeks, and we would encourage your child to engage in this.

Year 6 children are also welcome to attend sessions in the I.C.T. suite on Tuesday mornings from 8 a.m., in which we look at past papers online.

Thank you

We really look forward to the term ahead. If you need to get in touch, please speak to a member of our team at the classroom door.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Mr. Mitchell and Miss Thompson