

St James C of E Academy

Year 6

Autumn Newsletter 1 2025



Welcome back! We hope you have had an enjoyable summer.

We are looking forward to getting to know all the children in Year 6 and to have a fantastic year. Year 6 can be challenging at times but we know that through the children's hard work, determination and perseverance, they will flourish and develop joy in their learning. This year, the Year 6 team to teach and support the children consists of Mrs Crabb, Miss Shaikh and Mrs Cook.

In Year 6, we want the year to be enjoyable and memorable but we also need to prepare the children for their next stage in learning and their transition to their secondary school. Therefore we expect homework to be completed weekly. We do appreciate that family lives are busy but 'Home Learning,' is really important to consolidate learning. Homework will be set every week and will consist of spellings, reading, times tables and written homework. The written homework is in preparation for SATs which will take place during the week commencing 11th May 2026. We will continue to use TT Rockstar, Spelling Shed. As a minimum expectation, your child needs to complete a total of at least 5 games of Spelling Shed per week, which ideally, should be spread out on at least 3 separate occasions. They will also need to collect a minimum of 1000 coins on TT Rockstar per week. User names and passwords will be distributed in due course. There is an expectation that children read at least three times a week and records are signed. We may make amendments to homework from time-to time.

Throughout the year, we will keep you updated using 'Class Dojo'. If you haven't signed up for it already, please do.

Although we are in autumn, the classrooms can be warm and we recommend that children have a named, filled water bottle on a daily basis.

We look forward to working with you throughout the year. If you have any concerns or queries, please telephone the school or email using the Year 6 address: YR6@stjames.covmat.org or contact us via class dojo.

Notices

PE

This term, both classes will take part in PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Your child will need to arrive in school wearing their PE kit on these days.

Please ensure your child wears trainers not pumps since these will be more comfortable and supportive to their feet and that any ear piercings are removed following the uniform policy of the school.

Homework

Weekly Times Table Rockstar and Spelling Shed homework is set

Friday—Friday. New spellings will then be issued for the week ahead. Written homework will also be set on a Friday and be expected to be handed in of a Wednesday.

Reading records will be checked on Tuesday morning, Please make sure that the reading record is signed by an adult. As a minimum, you should be hearing your child read 3 times a week.

English	Maths
We have some excellent texts in English. We are going to start the year, with the picture book <i>The Varmints</i>. Then we are going to read <i>Private Peaceful</i>, and <i>The Walter Tull Story</i>. These are texts that will support our WW1 topic. We will then at texts to support of unit of work on the <i>Suffragettes</i>. During the autumn term, we will look at many grammatical features such as expanded noun phrases, adverbial phrases and various tense forms. There will be a focus on spelling	During our Maths lessons this term, we will look at place value and then addition, subtraction, multiplication and division moving onto fractions and geometry, which will include position and direction. Our curriculum will recap on key learning from previous years will ensure that any missed content is covered. Times Tables will be tested on a weekly basis since speedy retrieval of these will assist all children in other areas of the maths curriculum.
Science	History/Geography
In Science, we will begin learning about the Human Body before moving onto our study <i>Classification of Living Things</i>. We will develop our working scientifically skills and aim to strengthen our knowledge of current and previous curriculum content.,	During the first half term, we will study World War 1. We will understand some of the causes which led to WW1. We will also be looking at <i>Spatial Sense</i> and developing our understanding of reading maps. We will then move on to the <i>Suffragettes</i> and understanding <i>British Geographical Issues</i>.
Arts	RE
During this half term will focus on appreciating the art from the Italian Renaissance. We will look at artists including Leonardo Da Vinci and practise our drawing and sketching skills. We will then look at Renaissance architecture and sculpture.	As a Church School, the children will receive an RE, lesson every week. We will reinforce the Christian Ethos through whole school worship time. We will have a focus on World views and how do beliefs and ideas about land, shape the way human beings live?