

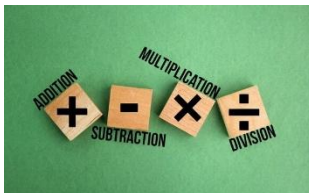
11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 Class Curriculum Newsletter - Aut 1

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and busy summer and are ready for the new academic year. We are so excited to welcome the children back and they have all made a fantastic start to their time in Rowan and Beech Class. This newsletter will detail the curriculum this term as your children embarks on their final year here at Westlea.

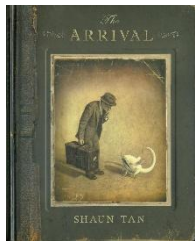
Maths



As we start the school year in Maths, we will be delving into the world of place value for numbers up to ten million and then applying the refined and formal methods to solve arithmetic and reasoning problems for the four key operations: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division.

English

Our novel this term is 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. A book that asks: What drives so many to leave



everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown? This silent graphic novel is the story of every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey. We will delve into the emotions of the main characters, recount their events, and learn about flashbacks and how they can impact a story. But the mystery to solve is: How will the man survive away from everything he ever knew?

Guided Reading



Our reading text for the Autumn term will be the book 'Incredible Journeys' written by Levison Wood. The book journeys along the Silk Road and medieval pilgrimages to the Holy Land, to Captain Cook's voyages of discovery and Amelia Earhart's daring feats of bravery, as well as learning about recent missions to the Moon and the Mariana Trench. Levison Wood shares his own insights into adventuring, telling you what it's REALLY like to follow in the footsteps of Alexander the Great!

History

How do we know about our past? What gives us information about what our local area was like many years ago? These key questions and many more will be answered during our topic: What does a census tell us about our local area? The children will study historical documents and explore the lives of those that came before us.

Westlea Primary School, Langstone Way, Westlea, Swindon, SN5 7BT.
phone: 01793 870469. email: admin@westleaschool.org.uk

Learning without limits, belonging without barriers.

Science

The children will be studying how and why we classify, with a focus around animals, big and small. They will learn about Carl Linnaeus and his role in the creation of classifying and the use of branching keys to sort out the different creatures, such as whether the animals are vertebrates/invertebrates or micro-organisms.

Invertebrates: animals without a backbone.			
Worms	Snails	Spiders (arachnids)	Insects
- Soft bodied. - Segmented. 	- Soft bodied. - External shell. 	- Exoskeleton. - Two body segments. - Eight legs. 	- Exoskeleton. - Three body segments. - Six legs. - Two pairs of wings (mostly.) 

PE

Our days for PE this year are **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. In the first term, we will be developing the passing and moving tactics to find space and refining our shooting techniques to improve accuracy. Our indoor topic is bench ball, a game that requires good spatial awareness, speed of thought and inventive passing skills



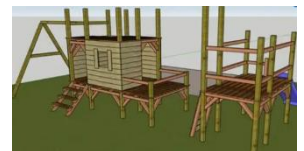
PSHE

Our unit this term is 'Being me in the world' and the blocks of learning are:



Design & Technology

The learning and exploration this term will focus on the designing and building of a playground structure. The children will have the chance to use their skills in woodwork and learn how to use tools safely and effectively.



Coming soon



School Residentials

Please keep a look out for information regarding this year's residential to Braeside. Meeting details will follow soon.

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Homework routines

So you are aware of the expectations surrounding homework with the Year 6 children and are able to support/remind your children, we will set the following on a weekly basis:

Reading	Each child will bring home a banded book and a free choice book. The expectation is for them to record evidence of reading for a minimum of five days. It is good practice to have these books with them each day and every Friday, the reading records will be marked and recorded to monitor the amount being read at home.
Spelling Shed 	Each Friday, your child will be set a new group of words that will have been looked at in class. These words are taken from the key lists that we have been working on. The expectation is that the children complete the written task and hand it in by the following Friday. For further help, children can log on at home and complete the activities for a minimum of five games. There will also be a written task to complete. The following Friday, they will be tested on these words in school and then a new set will be introduced.
Times Table Rockstars 	To support the development, speed and precision of the children's times tables, we have access to the website: Times Tables Rockstars. Throughout the school year, the children will compete in competitions against other classes. It is expected that the children access this weekly.

Where the children have to log in to websites, all the passwords and usernames are stored in their reading record books.

Finally, if you have any questions or issues that you would like to raise, we are always on the door each morning and most afternoons. If you have missed us or are unable to drop off/pick up, you can drop an email to admin@westleaschool.org.uk with our name in the message and it will be forwarded directly to us.

With thanks,

Ms Cannon and Miss Webster

Year 6 Class Teachers