



Year 6 - Summer Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had a good break and that your child is ready for their final term at Whitehall Junior School. The Summer Term promises to be a busy one with lots of learning, and preparation for SATs and secondary school. The Summer Term also includes our end of Year 6 'Whitehall Week' experience and our much-anticipated leavers' production. This term promises to be as productive and enjoyable as ever and the aim of this newsletter is to inform you of what we will look to cover this term.

English

During this term, your child will be reading several texts, enabling them to investigate a variety of authors' writing styles as well as writing their own stories and non-fiction pieces. During the first few weeks of this term, your child will be consolidating their learning and developing revision strategies with their teachers in preparation for SATs and their next steps in learning at secondary school. We want all our children to be 'secondary - ready'.

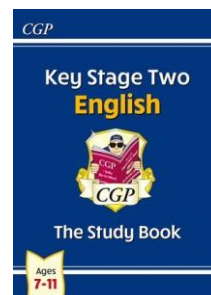
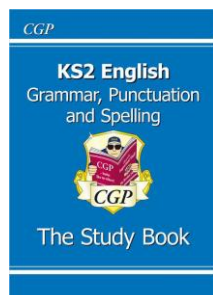


Your child will also be completing daily word and sentence level tasks, which will allow them to develop their vocabulary, grammar and knowledge on sentence types and structures, which they will then be encouraged to use in their daily written work.

As well as this, your child will continue to have daily guided reading lessons and Reading Plus sessions this term, which will improve their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ignite a passion for reading.

Please remember that your child must read every night for at least 20 minutes and to make the most out of this time, time should be spent discussing the text they have read. Please record your child's reading within their planner as this is checked every day at school.

We would like to encourage all children to use their English and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar revision guides at this time and to complete the activities within these books as a form of revision in readiness for their upcoming SATs.



Mathematics

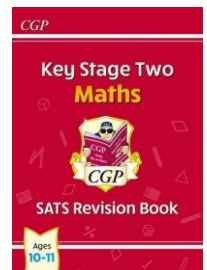
In mathematics lessons, the children will continue developing their mathematics skills and learning how to apply these skills to a variety of fun problem-solving tasks. It is therefore incredibly helpful if you can get your children involved in mathematics in real-life situations outside of school. Encourage them to total up shopping bills, calculate change and to continue to work on mental mathematics skills, for example, quick recall of multiplication facts.

Through the use of our PUMA assessment and Mock SATs, your child's mathematics teacher will be focusing on areas your child is finding challenging. It is also useful for you to work through any assessments that are sent home with your child.

Your child will also have weekly mental mathematics tests to improve and refine their mental calculations. It is essential that your child practises the areas of mental mathematics that they are weaker at and that have been identified by their teacher. 'Mathletics' is an excellent website for the children to use in order to practise their mental mathematics skills and do not forget to remind your children of the useful mathematics resources within their planners. We will also be continuing to use the 'Times Tables Rockstars' website to support and encourage the children with their times tables. During the week, the children will be practising their knowledge and speed in answering questions. There will be a weekly focus for the children to challenge themselves.



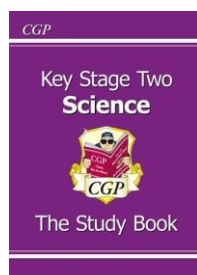
We would like to encourage all children to use these resources listed above as well as their maths revision guide and to complete the activities within this book as a form of revision in readiness for their upcoming SATs. Using these resources will not only prepare your child for the upcoming SATs but also enable your child to refine and improve their skills as well as developing them into independent learners in their preparation for secondary school.



Science

The BBC website offers excellent background reading for your child's learning in science and provides fun and interactive games and quizzes to consolidate their learning. The topic that we will be covering during this term will be 'Animals, including Humans'. This topic is hands-on and your child will be completing and devising many experiments to gain first-hand observations and knowledge. We will focus on scientific enquiry skills and refine children's ability to conduct experiments and interpret the results accurately.

We advise that your child uses their science revision guide and to complete the activities within this book. This will enable your child to refine and improve their knowledge and understanding of all science topics covered in KS2 as well as developing them into independent learners in their preparation for secondary school.



Foundation Lessons

Our main unit of work for this term is geography based looking at **South America and The Amazon River**. This theme is based on environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries and major cities.



Alongside this learning, the children will participate in making a 'dam model' using mechanical and electrical components through a DT project and investigate the work of various African painters and artists in art. They will use what they learn from other artists to inspire their own art pieces by creating drawings and collages. During their RE learning, the children will cover Buddhism, faith and values as well as taking part in weekly computing, music, PE, PSHE and French lessons.

Homework

Year 6 pupils are expected to complete the following homework each week:

- Read daily for at least 20 minutes and have planners signed. This includes at the weekend.
- Learn spellings that will be given on a Monday and tested on a Friday (these are listed below on this page).
- Times tables and number facts to be practised regularly at home for our weekly mental arithmetic test.
- Weekly CGP Books: assigned Grammar, Punctuation and spelling task, Comprehension task and Mathematics task (these are listed below on this page).
- Regular use of Times Table Rockstars.
- Complete your weekly allocated Reading Plus tasks (if you do not complete your six assigned tasks whilst at school each week).
- There are also extension activities available on this page if you wish to complete them (this is optional).

SATs

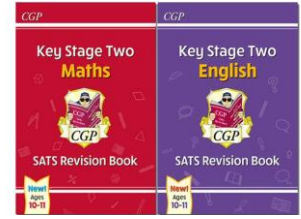
The Summer Term is a very busy term as we continue to prepare the children for their SATs tests and their transition to secondary school. SATs test week is **11th to 14th May 2026**. It is essential that the children are at school leading up to the tests so that they can be adequately prepared. Please do not book family holidays or arrange other appointments during this week as children cannot take these tests at any other time. In fact, all absences, other than for illness, will only be authorised in very exceptional circumstances. We hope that all children achieve the national age-related expectation for KS2.

For further information and support in regards to this year's SATs, please watch the video presentation we have created for families, which is available on the Year 6 page of the school website.



Revision Guides

If you have not done so already and you would still like to purchase our revision guides, we are still selling all four revision guides at a cost of £3.00 each. The BBC websites also provide excellent background reading for their learning in Science; the main topic during this term being 'Animals, including humans'.



Whitehall Week

During the Summer Term, Year 6 children will participate in Whitehall Week during the week beginning 8th June 2024. Whitehall Week is an action-packed week full of fun activities either based at school or through off-site day trips. These organised events are to enable the children to come together and celebrate their time at Whitehall Junior with one another. Further information about this planned week will be shared with you in due course.

Secondary School Transition Day

This year your child's secondary school transition day will take place on Tuesday 7th July. Nearer the time, more information will be communicated with you about this day.

Year 6 Production

We also have our end of term Year 6 Production to look forward to. More exciting details to follow!

Knowledge Mats

Rivers KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	World's best known rivers	Exciting Books
estuary An estuary is an area where a large river flows into the ocean.	Amazon Situated in Brazil, it is 6,900 miles long. Runs through the Amazon rainforest.	<i>Around the World in 80 Days</i> <i>My First Atlas</i> <i>My First Encyclopedia</i>
mouth A river mouth is the part of a river where the water flows into the ocean, a lake, or another body of water.	Nile The world's longest river (at 6,850 miles long) and runs into the Mediterranean.	<i>The River</i> <i>The River and the Rain</i> <i>The River and the Sea</i>
source The place at which a river begins usually in high ground.	British rivers Thames (London river) that is 346 miles long.	
meander A meander is a winding curve or bend in a river.	Severn (Britain's longest river) 220 miles from Wales to Bristol.	
waterfall A waterfall is a place where water flows over a high place or a steep bank.	Mersey (Liverpool river) that is 70 miles long.	
erosion Erosion occurs when the land's surface is worn away by the action of water, wind, or ice.		
deposition Sediment and pebbles are carried down rivers. They are deposited in some places.		
tributary When one stream meets another and merges together, the smaller stream is known as a tributary.		
ox bow lake An ox-bow lake is formed when the meander is so deep that it cuts off a part of the meander.		
delta Deltas are often found at the mouth of large rivers.		
stream A stream is a small body of flowing water.		

To increase your awareness of the academic vocabulary linked to the topics that your child will be learning this term, you will find knowledge mats on the school website within the Year 6 page. Do take the time with your child to look through these knowledge mats as this will support the learning that takes place inside the classroom.

Vocabulary

We are encouraging families to exploit talk and vocabulary usage with their children, based on the topics which are being covered in school. Research shows that the more talk and vocabulary children are exposed to, the greater progress and attainment achieved. Therefore, please see below a list of vocabulary which your child will be exposed to this term in their learning (this list is also available on the Year 6 page of our website). We are asking that you support us in the use of these words outside the classroom to deepen your child's understanding of these terms.

Vocabulary enables us to interpret and to express. If you have a limited vocabulary, you will also have a limited vision and a limited future.

SCIENCE – Y6 Animals including Humans Vocabulary List 2026

Word	Meaning	Synonyms	Similar words
classification	the assignment of organisms to groups within a system of categories distinguished by structure, origin, etc.	Sort, group, arrange, organise	Classify,
vertebrate	having vertebrae; having a backbone or spinal column.	Back bone	invertebrate
invertebrate	of or relating to creatures without a backbone.	spineless	vertebrate
recognise	to identify from knowledge of appearance or characteristics	Understand, see, spot	Recognisable, recognisability.
characteristics	pertaining to, constituting, or indicating the character or peculiar quality of a person or thing; typical; distinctive	Attribute, property, trait, feature	Character, uncharacteristic
environment	the air, water, minerals, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at any time	Habitat, climate, setting, surroundings, situation	Environmentally, environmental
climate	a region or area characterized by a given climate	Weather, atmosphere, temperature	Climatic, climatically
diet	the food and drink that a person or animal regularly consumes	Nourishment, nutrition, edibles, sustenance	Dietician, dietary
skeleton	the bones of a human or an animal considered as a whole, together forming the framework of the body	Frame, body	Skeletal
bones	the hard connective tissue forming the substance of the skeleton of most vertebrates, composed of a collagen-rich organic matrix impregnated with calcium, phosphate, and other minerals		Boned, bony
protect	to provide, or be capable of providing	Look after, preserve, secure, shield, support, cushion, cover	Protected, overprotect, protective,
muscle	a tissue composed of cells or fibers, the contraction of which produces movement in the body	Tendon, tissue	Muscular, muscly.
tendon	a cord or band of dense, tough, inel	Ligament, sinew,	tendonitis

	astic, white, fibrous tissue, serving to connect a muscle with a bone or part; sinew	tissue, band	
organ	a grouping of tissues into a distinct structure, as a heart or kidney in animals or a leaf or stamen in plants, that performs a specialized task	Component, element, feature, limb, part	Organic, organist
joints	the movable or fixed place or part where two bones or elements of a skeleton join.	Elbow, bend, seam	Joinery, disjointed, joiner

GEOGRAPHY – Y6 South America and Rivers Vocabulary List 2026

Word	Meaning	Synonyms	Similar words
mountain	a mountain is a large and often steep landmass that's much higher than the surrounding area	mount	mount, mountains
river	a river is a long, flowing natural stream of water.	estuary stream tributary	river riverbank riverside riverine
sea	A sea is a huge body of salt water, typically a part of the ocean that's near land	expanse lake ocean pond	seas
lake	a body of (usually fresh) water surrounded by land	pond, basin, tank, reservoir	lakes laker
ocean	a large body of water constituting a principal part of the hydrosphere	pond puddle sea tide	oceans oceanic oceanography
country	a country is a nation, a body of land with one government. Also, rural areas outside cities and towns are called the country.	land state	countries
capital	the city or town that functions as the seat of government and administrative centre of a country or region.	Central	capitals
city	a city is an area in which a large number of people live fairly close together.	metropolis urban centre	cities
country	a country is a nation, a body of	land	countries

	land with one government. Also, rural areas outside cities and towns are called the country.	state	
continent	one of the large landmasses of the earth	acreage area	continents supercontinent subcontinent continentality continental
state	a politically organized body of people under a single government	community federation land nation	states stateless overstate
climate	the weather in some location averaged over some long period of time	humidity temperature	climatology climatography climatic microclimate
passport	a document issued by a country to a citizen allowing that person to travel abroad and re-enter the home country	authorization key license	passports
brochure	a small book usually having a paper cover	advertisement booklet flyer	brochures
tourist	someone who travels for pleasure	sightseer traveller visitor	tourists touristic tourism
mileage	distance measured in miles	length distance measure	mileages
settlement	the act of colonizing; the establishment of colonies	establishment colonisation population	settlements
colonial	of or relating to or characteristic of or inhabiting a colony	crude dependent dominion	colonialist colonialism colonialization neocolonialism
perspective	a way of regarding situations or topics etc.	angle aspect attitude	perspectives
population	the people who inhabit a territory or state	community culture people	over-population depopulation
biome	a major biotic community characterized by the dominant forms of plant life and the prevailing climate	ecosystem habitat biosphere	biometrics biomechanics biometric
geological	of or relating to or based on geology	geographic earthly topographical	geologic

relief	the relief of a place is the difference between the highest and lowest elevations in an area of mountain ranges		
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We are very much looking forward to this term and we hope that your children are too. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress or welfare, please do not hesitate to contact us via email: year6@whitehalljunior.org and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Costa, Miss Brown, Mrs McCarthy, Miss Treanor, Miss Groves and Miss Shaw

Year 6 Class teachers

March 2026