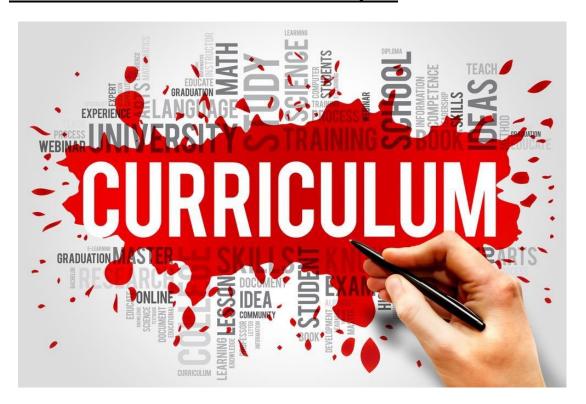
Year 6 Curriculum Themes 2021/22





Autumn Term 1 - Darwin's Delights

Charles Darwin guides us through an extraordinary journey of discovery as we learn all about the evolution of the incredible animals on planet Earth. We journey to the magical islands of Galapagos to see the amazing species that helped Darwin develop his theory of evolution with natural selection. We discover how animals adapt to their environment over time and we meet some of the world's greatest explorers. Imagine how humans will evolve in millions of years - it's a scary thought! Alongside this, we read David Almond's 'Skellig' and learn about an extraordinary being who is protected by two young children.

Autumn Term 2 - World War 2

A siren sounds, a building crumbles, Spitfires zoom overhead. Take cover! It's 1939 and Britain is at war. We discover why nations are fighting and why child evacuees must make the long journey from their homes and families into unknown territory. We discover more about Anne Frank, storm troopers, rationing and finally, the declaration of peace. Through our key text, 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', we also learn about the war from a Jewish perspective and discuss some of the inhumanity that took place during World War 2.

Spring Term 1 – Frozen Kingdoms

Welcome to the planet's coldest lands. Vast wilds and hostile territories; incredibly beautiful, yet often deadly. Take shelter from the elements or fall prey to icy winds and the deepest chill. Trek bravely and valiantly across treacherous terrain to the ends of the Earth, treading deep in snow or being pulled by a team of mighty sled dogs. We will learn more about these intrepid expeditions through reading

'Shackleton's Journey'. Be alert, for magnificent mammals roam these lands, sometimes hungry or fresh for a fight, including those that we will learn about through reading 'The Wolf Wilder' by Kathrine Rundell. Become part of an Antarctic rescue team, braving the elements to rescue terrified passengers from a ship struck by a deadly iceberg that hides deep beneath the Ocean. Wrap up well and settle by the fire.

<u>Spring Term 2 – Tales of Terror (Author Study)</u>

Prepare yourself... this half term we become authors of horror as we read well known terrifying tales from Roald Dahl and Anthony Horowitz. A heated debate takes the forefront of this topic, as we read the story 'Lamb to the Slaughter'. In this fictional story, a well-known police officer is murdered in the comfort of his own home. Initially, we investigate who the suspects could be and what their motives are. Once we have discovered who the murderer is, we question and debate whether they had good cause to commit this heinous crime! Not only this but we learn about how author Anthony Horowitz creates shock, suspense and shivers in his short stories 'The Night Bus' and 'The Man with the Yellow Face'. It's gory, it's gruesome and it's horrifying – filled with stories to remember.

Summer Term 1 – Africa

Let's visit Africa, both past and present day. Here we will learn about the development of the slave trade and explore the role that Great Britain played in it. We will also investigate the causes and consequences of the European colonisation of Africa and reflect upon important facts around the plantation system; the loss of freedom, family and culture, and working and living conditions. Furthermore, we will investigate what actions led to the abolition of slavery and through reading our key text 'Freedom' by Catherine Johnson, we will learn about a boy's experience of slavery in Britain. With a heavy focus on art this half term, we will learn about significant black artists and create artwork inspired by them.

Summer Term 2 – Hola Mexico!

Let us introduce you to life in the Mayan civilisation, which existed in Central America around 1,000 years ago. Come on the journey with us and learn about their unique pyramids, buildings and food, including the importance of maize to their civilisation. You will learn how to tell the status of a person by the headdress that he wore, and learn the rules of Mayan football! (Very different to the football game we know!) This theme allows us to explore Mayan art, food and culture in a range of exciting and creative ways!