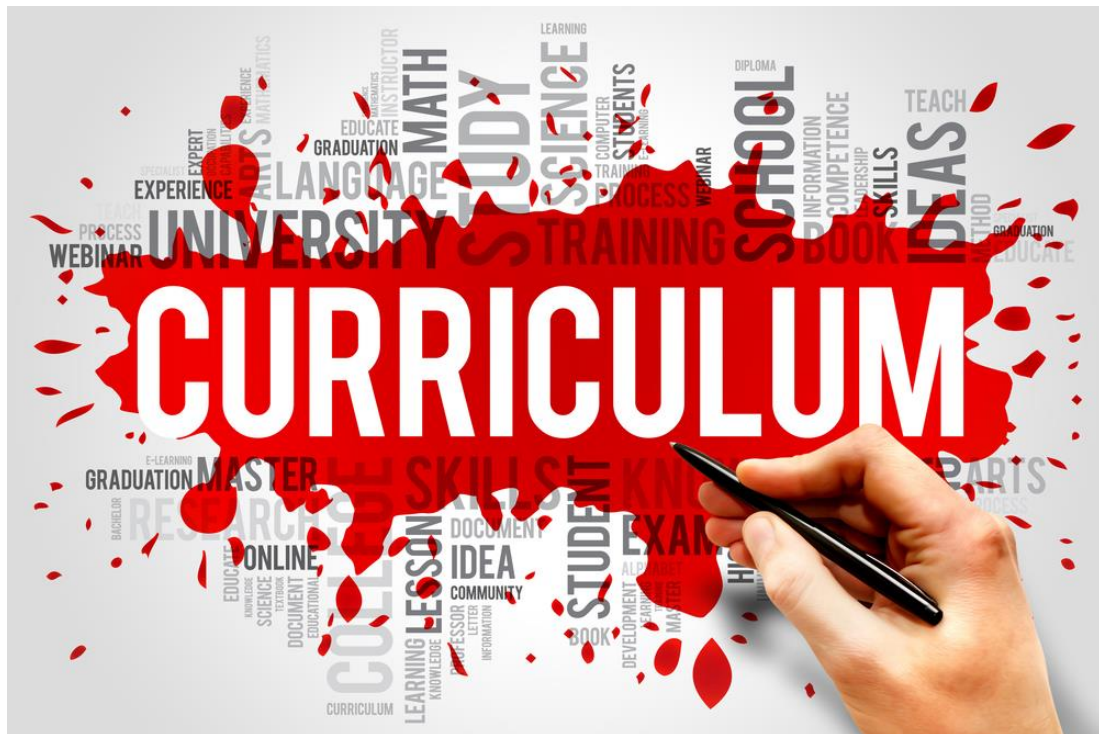


# Year 6 Curriculum Themes 2020/21



## 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 – A Child’s War

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 - ID and The Arrival by Shaun Tan

Within this half term, our learning journey is split into two incredible themes, ID and The Arrival by Shaun Tan.

**ID** - Who do you think you are? We explore and question our identity and what makes us....us! From fingerprints to footprints, to genes and DNA, we discover everything that is unique about us.

**The Arrival by Shaun Tan** - A mysterious picture book which allows us to delve deeper into our reading 'inference' skills, unpicking pictures for underlying meaning. We have the opportunity to explore current issues which affect people in our world today, such as those faced by refugees and migrants. We will write diaries, letters and job applications as we take on the role of the main character.

### **Spring Term 2 – 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. 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.

### **Summer Term 1 – Tales of Terror (Author Study)**

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! It's gory, it's gruesome and it's horrifying – filled with stories to remember.

### **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!