

# Holden Clough Primary School's Curriculum Newsletter - Year 6 - Autumn 1 - 2025/2026

**Introduction** We're delighted to welcome the children back after the summer holidays and into their final year of primary school! It's an exciting milestone, and we're looking forward to all the opportunities and challenges ahead. This term will be packed with engaging learning, new responsibilities, and plenty of chances for the children to shine as role models in school. As we begin this important year, there's so much to look forward to, and we can't wait to see the children grow, achieve, and make lasting memories together.

## History

In History, we will be exploring our enquiry question:

Who were the Ancient Greeks and how did they influence the world?

This unit is designed to explore Greek life, the achievements of Ancient Greece and its influence on the western world. Below you can find a list of the key vocabulary we will be covering this half term.

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
acropolis	A sacred part of an Ancient Greek city, usually built on a hill.	ethics	Standards of right behaviour or moral principles.
alliances	A union formed for mutual benefit, especially between countries or organisations.	excavation	Digging to find buried remains or artefacts.
alphabet	The letters used in a language, usually arranged in a set order.	government	The group of people who are in charge of a country.
archaeologist	Someone who studies archaeology.	influence	The power to affect someone or something.
citizens	A citizen of a place is someone who was born there or who lives there.	military	To do with soldiers or the armed forces.
city-state	Ancient Greek city which had its own laws and government.	monarchy	A monarchy is a country ruled by a monarch.
civilisation	An advanced society, culture, and particular way of life in a certain area.	mountainous	A mountainous place has a lot of mountains.
conquer	Defeat people in a battle or war.	oligarchy	A country ruled by a small group of people.
conquest	A victory over another country or people.	philosophy	Philosophy is the study of truths about life and human behaviour.
culture	The customs and traditions of people.	tactics	Methods used by someone to achieve or win something.
democracy	Democracy is government by leaders elected by the people.	tyranny	Cruel or unjust way of ruling people.
drama	Drama is writing or performing plays.	unite	People or things unite when they join together.
enquiry	A question you ask when you want information.	warrior	Someone who fights in battles.



## Mathematics

We'll begin the year by revisiting place value, building on the children's confidence in recognising, reading, and writing numbers up to 8 digits, as well as exploring how these numbers are composed. Alongside this, we'll be working with negative numbers and rounding, before moving on to the four operations, fractions, and finally geometry. A key focus this year will be fluency in times tables and division facts, as this underpins so much of the maths curriculum. To support this, TT Rockstars will continue to be a valuable tool for practice and consolidation. All logins will remain the same, and we'll reissue details just in case any have been forgotten.

# Year 6

## Writing & Guided Read

In English this half-term, we'll begin with a baseline piece of writing in the form of a non-chronological report on Deadly Perils. From there, much of our work will be inspired by *The Haunting of Aveline Jones* (our guided read text). Using this text, the children will explore different writing styles and techniques, starting with letter writing in an informal, non-fiction context. We'll then focus on character descriptions, developing rich vocabulary and precise descriptive language, before moving on to setting descriptions where imagery and sensory detail will bring scenes to life. To finish, the children will apply these skills in a spooky narrative, concentrating on building atmosphere, suspense, and mood.

### Science

This term, Year 6 are exploring the amazing variety of living things, from tiny microbes to plants and animals. They're learning about Carl Linnaeus and his system for classifying species, and will practise grouping organisms by their similarities and differences.

### Art & DT

Over the next few weeks, year 6 will be researching and then creating artwork inspired by the Willow Pattern.

### Parent's Information

If you want to support your child's learning at home, here are a few ideas you might like to try:

- Listen, read and discuss with your child the book they are reading at the moment. If you want to encourage your child to read more narrative/fiction ask your class teacher for ideas.

- Play times table games and practise division as well as multiplication facts.

- Use the Edshed and TT Rockstars websites at home - your children should know their log in details!

- Practise your child's spellings with them - they will be bringing them home in their planners at the start of each week and will be tested weekly on them on a Friday.

### P.E

Year 6 P.E. days will be on Tuesdays. During the first three weeks of this half term, Year 6 will take part in swimming lessons. Class 6JH will swim on Mondays and Wednesdays, while Class 6AH will swim on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure children bring their swimming kits on the correct days.



  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
DO YOUR  
HOMEWORK**

### Upcoming dates for your diary

- 8<sup>th</sup> September - online safety workshop
- 18<sup>th</sup> September (4.30pm) - Meet the Teacher workshop
- 13<sup>th</sup> October - individual photographs.
- 24<sup>th</sup> October - end of the half-term.

### Homework

Just a reminder of homework allocation for this academic year. All homework will be marked as a class whereby misconceptions will be addressed.

**Monday - Arithmetic practise paper due the following Monday.**

**Wednesday - pages from the SPAG CGP book due the following Wednesday.**

**Friday - pages from the reasoning CGP book due the following Friday.**

**New spellings to be given out on weekly to be learnt for testing the following week.**

These CPB books will be given out to each child next week.

### Spanish & Music

This year, Spanish will be taught at Holden Clough using the Language Angels programme. Year 6 will have their Spanish lessons on Thursdays. Music will also be taught on Thursdays by Mr Cummings.