

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

Introduction Welcome back! We hope you had a restful Christmas break and wish you a happy and prosperous 2025.

It's hard to believe this will be the year our current Year 6 cohort moves on—but there's still plenty of learning (and fun!) ahead before that happens. This half-term, we'll also be sharing updates about SATs, so please remember to check 'Class Dojo' regularly for the latest information. For now, let's dive into what the children will be learning this half-term.



Topic

This half term, our topic is *Conflict and Resolution*. This unit aims to deepen pupils' understanding of British history by extending their chronological knowledge beyond 1066. It provides an overview of the First and Second World Wars and examines how conflict continues to affect the world today.

The unit begins by exploring the origins of the First World War, focusing on the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand as a key trigger. Pupils will also learn about the role of the British Empire, highlighting that the war was not fought by Britain alone. They will study the individuals who participated in the conflict, gaining insight into how Britain relied on support from its colonies and the introduction of laws like conscription to strengthen its army.



Mathematics

We will begin our learning journey with the topic of Fraction, Decimals and Percentages (FDP), covering the following key concepts:

- Step 1 Decimal and fraction equivalents
- Step 2 Fractions as division
- Step 3 Understand percentages
- Step 4 Fractions to percentages
- Step 5 Equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages
- Step 6 Order fractions, decimals and percentages
- Step 7 Percentage of an amount – one-step
- Step 8 Percentage of an amount – multi-step
- Step 9 Percentages – missing values

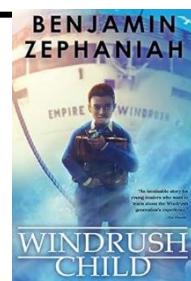
Once we have completed our work FDP, we will be moving towards Ratio.

Writing

This half term, we will delve deeper into the captivating world of *Macbeth*. Our focus will be on exploring its themes of ambition, power, and fate as we craft our own creative pieces. Children will write an intense battle scene narrative, compose a powerful poem inspired by the play's dramatic tone, and create a heartfelt letter from the perspective of one of its characters. Through these tasks, we aim to develop vivid storytelling skills and a deeper understanding of Shakespeare's language and ideas.

Reading

During Guided Reading, we will be exploring *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah. Below is a brief synopsis of the book:



*In 1958, Leonard travels with his mother from Jamaica to England to join his father. The novel follows Leonard as he struggles to adapt to life in Britain. Although *Windrush Child* is a fictional story, Benjamin Zephaniah was inspired by historical events when he wrote *Windrush Child*.*

PSHE

This half-term, we will continue exploring PSHE with a particular focus on the topic of Health. Our learning will cover the following key objectives:

Recognise early signs of physical illness, such as weight loss or unexplained changes in the body.

Develop self-assessment skills to understand how these can inform future actions.
Take responsibility for their own safety and that of others, including knowing how to seek help in an emergency.

Understand the facts and science behind immunisation and vaccination.

Listen to and show consideration for the views of others.

Parent's Information

If you'd like to support your child's learning at home, here are some helpful suggestions:

- Spend time listening to, reading, and discussing the book your child is currently enjoying. If you'd like recommendations for narrative or fiction books, feel free to ask your child's teacher.
- Play times tables games and practice both multiplication and division facts to build confidence and fluency.
- Encourage your child to use online resources like Century, EdShed, and Times Table Rockstars at home - they should already have their login details!

Help your child practice their spellings, which will be sent home in their planners at the beginning of each week.

Science

This half term, pupils will explore the fascinating concepts of variation, inheritance, adaptation, and evolution. They will learn how differences in organisms arise from inherited traits and environmental factors, and understand that offspring resemble their parents but are rarely identical. Pupils will investigate patterns of inheritance, discover how adaptations help organisms survive, and examine how variation influences survival through natural selection.

Upcoming dates for your diary

- 9th January Y6 Mock trial (school)
- 5th February - Trip to the Air Raid Shelters.
- 12th & 26th English writing workshop.
- 27th January Macbeth Workshop.

PE

Our PE unit for this term will be delivered on a Tuesday afternoon by Miss Hanrahan and Miss Hollingworth.

Homework

Here's a quick reminder about the homework schedule for this academic year. All homework will be reviewed as a class, with any misconceptions addressed together.

Monday: Arithmetic practice paper set, due the following Monday.

Wednesday: Pages from the SPAG CGP book assigned, due the following Wednesday.

Friday: Pages from the reasoning CGP book assigned, due the following Friday.

Weekly Spellings: New spellings will be given out each week and should be practiced in preparation for a test the following week.



**KEEP
CALM**

AND

**DO YOUR
HOMEWORK**

Spanish & ICT

Spanish lessons will continue to be delivered by Mrs Berry and Miss Binmore, and ICT will remain scheduled on Wednesdays.