

# EAST SHEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## YEAR SIX CURRICULUM BULLETIN SPRING TERM

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Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a good holiday and enjoyed your time with family and friends. May we take this opportunity to thank you for our Christmas messages and gifts – they were extremely generous and very much appreciated.

This is the parent information bulletin for the Spring Term 2026. In this bulletin, we aim to supply you with more detailed information concerning the work being covered by your children in the coming months.

### English

The children will continue to read and analyse a variety of texts, including non-fiction, poetry and classic literature. Much of our work will focus on the skills needed for different forms of writing and the children will be critically analysing their own writing and assessing it according to given criteria, including the use of more complex grammar and punctuation. They will focus on the skills required in answering questions about texts, in preparation for the SATs. The assessment criteria for writing can be found [here](#).

The children will continue to be given spellings at the beginning of each half-term and will be tested in their groups – unless otherwise told. The spelling sheet is also available on our Year 6 page on the school website. It is really important that children are still learning their spellings weekly. We are hopeful that Spelling Shed will really help engage children with this as the weekly assignments set match the children's weekly word lists. In preparation for the spelling, punctuation and grammar SATs test, further emphasis will be placed on understanding of grammar and punctuation during lessons. SPaG revision sheets can be found [here](#). In addition to this, four revision words will be tested each week in preparation for the SATs spelling test. The children need to learn 14 spellings each week.

Attenborough: spelling test/lesson every **Monday**

Curie: spelling test/lesson every **Tuesday**

Darwin: spelling test/lesson every **Thursday**

The children are expected to read at home daily during the week (at least 30 minutes) and should record this in their reading diary, which is checked on a Thursday. Children must complete a minimum of 5 entries each week, independently.

### Mathematics

The children will continue to develop their mathematical skills during lessons. The work this term will focus on the different areas of maths: ratio; algebra; decimals, fractions and percentages; area, perimeter and volume and statistics. There will also be revision and tests in preparation for SATs. Weekly homework will continue to be set on Fridays and will be due in on Thursdays. We also encourage the children to practise their basic number facts regularly and there will be weeks where we send home extra paper-based homework.

### Science

For the first half of Spring Term, our focus in science will be our topic 'Animals Including Humans' in which we will consider how humans stay healthy with the correct diet and exercise and look at the circulatory system in more detail. We will also consider the effects of some drugs on the body.

Our second focus in science will be our topic 'Living Things and their Habitats' in which children will learn how to classify living things using the Linnaean System. We will learn about microorganisms such as bacteria and mould.

### History: The Victorians

The children will be looking at a significant turning point in British history, namely the Industrial Revolution. They will use primary and secondary sources to study the social and environmental impact of these major changes during the Victorian era such as city growth, child labour, home life, education, public health, trade and the Empire, transport and inventions. They will also be learning about Queen Victoria.

Linked to our history learning, we are going on a trip to Holly Lodge to visit their Victorian classroom. The trip is during the morning, and we will return to school for lunch time.

6T – **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

6B – **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

6C – **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

### Geography: The Victorians and Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Supporting our historical learning, we will study the geography of the British Empire and identify changes in the local area since the Victorian era. We will use atlases, digital mapping and develop our knowledge of four and six-figure grid references. We will consider the impact that the Industrial Revolution had on East Sheen and how a growing population and the advent of the railway changed the area.

Our second geography focus of the spring term, we will be looking at geographical regions, key topographical features, tectonics and land use patterns. Our human and physical geography will focus on volcanoes and earthquakes and what it is like to live near a volcano. We will develop geographical skills through the use of maps, atlases, globes and compasses. This topic will continue in the summer term.

### PSHE

In PSHE, we discuss key themes such as celebrating difference, values in sport and bullying. Linked with this, all children in Year 6 will take part in the annual Junior Citizen Project at Holly Lodge in Richmond Park on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March**.

### RE

This term in Year 6, our Religious Education focus will be on Christianity, guided by the Richmond SACRE syllabus and the Discovery RE scheme. We will explore the learning question: "Is anything eternal?" To answer this question, we will be examining Christian beliefs about life, death and the concept of eternity. Through discussions, stories and reflections, we will delve into how these ideas influence Christian practices and values. This unit encourages critical thinking and allows students to compare Christian views with their own beliefs and those from other traditions, fostering a deeper understanding of faith and the concept of timelessness.

### Art

The children will be focusing their learning on the key question: "How can we create meaning with our artwork?" To answer this question, our key learning includes developing skills in collecting and annotating imagery, making artistic comparisons and using tools to explore effects. We will respond creatively to themes such as spirit animals, symbols and patterns while applying techniques like chiaroscuro to create tonal drawings. We will analyse and discuss different art styles, form personal opinions about art and understand how artists convey messages. At the end of the topic, children will learn to reflect their identity through their artwork and explore the impact of artistic techniques.

### PE and Games

Children have PE twice a week: an afternoon Wednesday session run by teachers and Friday morning sessions run by NS Sport. It is very important that children have the correct kit at all times. Children will be permitted to wear their correct PE kit all day on **Wednesday** and **Friday**.

### Computing

Through the year, we constantly refresh our knowledge and skills in e-safety. We will learn more about how to navigate the internet in an informed, safe and respectful way.

Unit 3 Data Handling: Big Data 1. Before half-term, children will learn about barcodes, QR codes and RFID. Unit 4 AI. After half-term, children will learn about AI. (Please note that children will not use AI directly themselves.)

### Music

As well as weekly singing assemblies and regular singing in class, children will listen to, perform and explore a wide range of music. In the spring term, Year 6 will work with Ms. Chaplin to explore musical texture and learn to play Calypso using percussion.

### French

This term Year 6 will learn to talk about their daily routine, times about their daily routine and what they have for breakfast. They will be given the opportunity to write to their French pen pals about the details of a typical day. The children will continue to practise all 4 skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing) and will be working towards their Silver Lingua Badge Award. They will also learn about how Easter is celebrated in France.

### Thinking Schools

The children will continue to use tools from their 'Thinking School' toolkit, including thinking maps, thinking hats and habits of mind. The 'Thinking School' methodologies aim to equip children with the thinking skills needed to effectively tackle problems across and beyond the curriculum, both at school and in the future, through deep and critical thinking.

### SATs

Please note that the children will be sitting their SATs tests at the start of the summer term, starting on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May** and finishing **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. It is very important that all pupils are in attendance for these tests.

As well as Mathematics, reading and spelling, we will start occasionally sending home some additional reading and maths homework.

Much of the work undertaken between now and then will be focused on preparing for the tests and therefore full attendance and punctuality **at 8:50am** are of paramount importance. We shall be reminding the children of the need to be well rested and therefore able to give the work the necessary focus and effort required, but we would also appreciate your help in encouraging them with this.

We hope you have found this information useful but do not hesitate to see us with any further questions you may have.

With best wishes,

Year 6 team

### Key dates

Victorian classroom trips w/c **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

NSPCC Number Day **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February**

World Book Day **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

STEM Week w/c **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

Junior Citizenship at Holly Lodge **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

World Maths Day **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**