

St Robert Bellarmine Catholic Primary School

We Are God's Work of Art



Year 6 Newsletter

Autumn 2026

Welcome to Year 6, we hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are glad to be back in school. We are so excited to be back in school ready for a great year!

To help ensure the smooth running of the school day and to support your child's learning and safety, please take note of the following reminders.

Start of the School Day

The school day begins promptly at 8:30am when the gates open. Registration closes at 8:35am. Morning work begins straight away at 8:30am, so please ensure your child arrives on time and is ready to start the day without delay.

Expectations

As we begin a new school year — and the very important final year of primary school — we are full of hope and ambition for each child to reach their full potential. To achieve this, it is essential that our classrooms remain calm, focused, and respectful learning spaces. Even seemingly minor disruptive behaviours — whether unkindness towards others, not following instructions, or ignoring school rules — can have a significant impact on both the learning and wellbeing of the whole class.

We are committed to delivering high-quality education every day. To do this effectively, we must work together to create an environment where every child feels safe, supported, and ready to learn. We thank you for your continued partnership in reinforcing these expectations at home, helping us ensure that this final year of primary school is both successful and memorable for your child.

We are asking for your support in emphasising the importance of:

- Treating everyone with kindness and respect
- Following classroom rules and routines
- Accepting consequences when behaviour does not meet expectations
- Understanding that teachers are here to help every child succeed

Please take a moment to speak with your child about the vital role they play in contributing to a positive and respectful classroom environment. As a school, we are fully committed to acting in your child's best interests and to providing a safe, calm space where all children can thrive. We also value your support in reinforcing the message that all adults in school must be listened to and supported, both in and out of the classroom. By working together, we can ensure every child can succeed and feel proud of their behaviour and achievements.

Please be aware that staff will not contact parents about every low-level behaviour incident, as these are addressed promptly and proportionately in school. Such minor incidents are a natural part of children learning boundaries and are managed in line with our behaviour expectations. However, if there are repeated incidents or if a child is involved in a more serious situation, parents and carers will be contacted. We are committed to working closely with you to support your child's behaviour and wellbeing, ensuring that all children can flourish in a positive learning environment.

Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the appropriate school uniform. To avoid lost items, please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled, including jumpers, PE kits, and coats.

Children are responsible for looking after their belongings and bringing them home each day.

Children may wear watches and small stud earrings. Smartwatches may be worn but must not be connected to a cellular network or have internet access during the school day. No other jewellery is permitted in school.

PE & Swimming

PE takes place on Monday afternoons.

Please ensure your child brings:

- A full PE kit (school shorts and white t-shirt, pumps, trainers)
- Warmer clothes should be brought in for days when weather conditions are poor.

Swimming lessons take place on Thursday afternoons.

Please ensure your child brings:

- A towel
- A suitable swimming costume (one-piece for girls, fitted trunks for boys)
- A swimming cap (required for all children)
- No jewellery is permitted during swimming sessions.

Mobile Phones

Children in Years 5 and 6 may bring a mobile phone only if:

- They are walking to/from school on their own, or
- They are going to be staying at a different home after school.

Phones must be:

- Switched off before entering school grounds
- Handed in and securely locked away during the school day
- Not brought to school unless necessary

SATs

As you are aware, Year 6 is a very important year for our pupils as they prepare for their end-of-key-stage SATs (Standard Assessment Tests). These national assessments are designed to measure the progress children have made during their time in primary school.

This academic year, SATs week will take place from **Monday 10th May 2027**. Every Year 6 child in the UK sits these exams during the same week, so it is essential that no holidays or absences are booked during this time or in the weeks leading up to it. Full attendance is crucial to ensure your child is well-prepared and confident on the day.

The SATs will assess your child's skills in:

- Mathematics
- Reading
- Grammar, punctuation, and spelling

Writing is not tested through a formal exam but is instead based on teacher assessment throughout the year.

Booster Classes

We understand that the idea of tests can feel overwhelming, but we want to reassure both you and your child that there is no need to worry. We aim to prepare the children thoroughly and positively and many pupils look forward to the opportunity to demonstrate all they have learned during their time here. To support our Year 6 pupils in the lead-up to SATs, we will be running additional booster classes throughout the year. These sessions provide valuable opportunities for targeted support and revision in key areas.

Autumn Term	Spring Term
Maths booster classes will take place every Tuesday during the first half of the Autumn Term, starting on Tuesday 8th September 2026. These sessions are designed to strengthen core mathematical skills and build confidence ahead of the SATs.	Children will attend weekly English and Maths booster classes. These will run throughout the term and focus on further preparation for the SATs exams in May. Full details, including days and times, will be shared before the Christmas break

Homework

Reading	Children should read for a minimum of 10–15 minutes each night. Please sign and add comments to your child's reading record. Homework diaries are collected every Monday, even if the book has not been completed. Please remind your child to keep their homework diary in their bag each day. Books can be changed on any day once completed; children are encouraged to take responsibility for letting a member of staff know when they need a new book.
Reading Graduate	We are restarting the Reading Graduate scheme this September. This is an additional book for your child to read for pleasure. We hope that all Year 6 children will become Reading Graduates by the end of the school year!
Spellings	Spellings are sent home every Monday and tested on Friday. They are also available on Google Classroom.
Grammar & Maths	One piece of grammar and one piece of maths homework will be set each Friday to be returned by the following Thursday.
Incomplete Homework	Homework not completed at home will need to be completed in school during break time, lunchtime or an additional playtime. If homework is consistently not completed, children may not be able to take part in optional activities such as sporting events, Play in a Day, or other activities outside the National Curriculum. These expectations aim to develop good routines, independence and responsibility, helping children prepare for their transition to Year 7.

Important Dates

4 Sept	Assembly – Keeping Safe	11 Nov	Remembrance Day Collective Worship
9 Sept	School Council Elections / Polling Day	14 Nov	Odd Socks Day
11 Sept	Assembly – Mission Day	16 Nov	Road Safety Week
14 Sept	School Photos and Calendar	18 Nov	Y6- DT Day
18 Sept	St Robert Bell Feast Day Mass (tbc)	20 Nov	Y6 - Prevent Assembly
2 Oct	School Council Surgery	20 Nov	Children in Need - PJ Day
7 Oct	Y6 Vikings - Play in a Day	24 Nov	Synagogue visit- Y1 and Y6 (tbc)
9 Oct	Macmillan Appeal Coffee Morning	27 Nov	School Council Surgery
	Wear Yellow for Mental Health Awareness	27 Nov	Non-uniform – Chocolate
19 Oct	Pupil Progress Meetings	4 Dec	Non-Uniform - Bottles
23 Oct	Non-uniform – Racism (Red/Blue)	11 Dec	Christmas Fair - 1.30pm
	Unwanted Gifts	15 Dec	KS2 Advent Service - 6pm

2 Nov	School re-opens and Friendship Fortnight begins	18 Dec	Christmas Parties
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Medium Term Plan

Year 6: Autumn Term

R.E.	Domestic Church— Loving: Pupils will study how it is in the love of a family that most Christians first experience the reality of Church.	Baptism—Belonging: Pupils will learn about the importance of Baptism and Confirmation and understand how all Christians are called to share the mission of Jesus.	Advent/Christmas –Expectations: Pupils will learn that Jesus was born to show God to the world.
ENGLISH <i>Reading</i>	Les Misérables Text-based English topic — Pupils will read and analyse ‘Les Misérables’ by Marcia Williams. This is an adaptation of the musical version. They will make inferences about the characters and justify their opinions by selecting appropriate evidence from the text.	Malala Text-based English topic — Pupils will read and analyse a range of texts based on Malala and her experience. They will also have opportunities to explore different aspects of her life through guided reading activities.	Grenfell Speeches (Visual/Audio Media) Text-based English topic - Pupils will read and analyse the words of support from Stormzy and Adele on behalf of Grenfell United. They will explore the reasoning behind the speeches and use these as inspiration to write poetry.
ENGLISH <i>Writing opportunities</i>	Les Misérables Character description (Y6, describe) Letter from Cosette to Fantine (Fantine, inform)	Malala Aerogram (Malala, dependent on pupil letter of choice), Formal Letter to MP (MP, letter to persuade), Monologue as Malala’s father (Malala’s Father/Reader, reflect)	Grenfell Speeches Snowball Poem (Reader, Entertain)
ENGLISH <i>SPaG</i>	Grammar — revision of word classes, complex and compound sentences, formal and informal language. Revision of Y5 learning (relative clauses, modal verbs), The use of adverbials for cohesion, formal/informal speech and one (Subjunctive form)	Punctuation — revision of Y5 learning, hyphens, colons, semi-colons, bullet points, commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity, ellipsis to make a grammatical connection	Spelling - ough sounds, homophones, suffixes (-ness, ious, ful, ing, er, ous)
Maths	Number and Place Value (Whole Numbers and Decimals) Calculations See maths objectives below		
Science	Light Light travels in straight lines Sight is light reflected into the eye Why shadows have the shape they do	Electricity Name components in a circuit and use symbols to represent these. Explain how to make changes in a circuit and discuss the impact of these.	
History	Why were the Vikings significant? Children will use primary and secondary sources to find out about the Vikings and how they came to be so successful. They make links between this period and previous periods of British history.		
PSHE/RSE	PSHE Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing What affects mental health and ways to take care of it; managing change, loss and bereavement; managing time online Safe Relationships Recognising and managing pressure; consent in different situations	All Are Welcome My Princess Boy Promoting Diversity RSE Journey in Love – Social & Emotional	
Computing	E-Safety	Data Detectives	Programming with Scratch
Art	Mixed Media Collage Making a collage using all of the memories of school and their hopes for the future. Using various backgrounds and all the techniques they have used over the course of their school life.		
DT	Fairground Rides (Electrical Circuits) Use a range of tools and equipment competently and accurately to measure, mark out, assemble and join materials and components with increasing accuracy.		
Music	African Drumming Combine different sounds to create a specific mood or feeling performing parts from memory and taking the lead in a performance		
P.E.	Swimming Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres using a range of strokes	Fitness Develop physically: agility, balance, co-ordination, speed, stamina, strength	
Curriculum Enrichment	Play-in-a-Day – Vikings DT Day – Fairgrounds	Moel Famau Give Racism the Red/Blue Card	Macmillan Coffee Morning Hello Yellow



Maths Objectives

Place Value and Number

- Read and write numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit.
- Order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit.
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy.
- Use negative numbers in context and calculate intervals across zero.
- Solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above.
- Identify the value of each digit in numbers given to three decimal places.

Addition and Subtraction

- Solve addition & subtraction multi-step problems in context deciding which operations to use and why.
- Perform mental calculations with mixed operations and large numbers.
- Use estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of the problem, levels of accuracy.
- Perform mental calculations with mixed operations and large numbers.

Multiplication and Division

- Use formal written methods for multiplication and division.
- Find missing digits within multiplication and division calculations.
- Solve multiplication and division multi-step problems in context deciding which operations to use and why.
- Perform mental calculations with mixed operations and large numbers.
- Use estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of the problem, levels of accuracy.