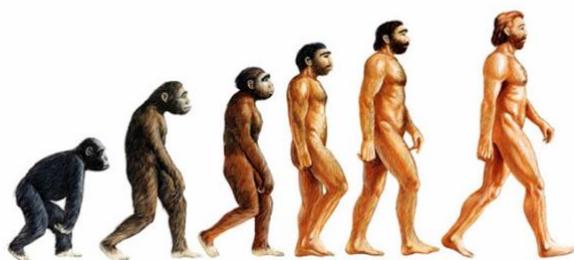
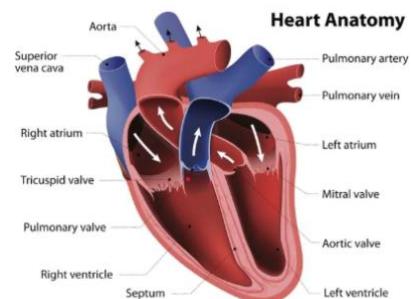




Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

Year 6



Spring Term 2026

6 Redwoods	6 Rowans
Mrs Thompson (Mon, Tues) <i>Class Teacher</i>	Mrs Mather <i>Class Teacher</i> Monday - Wednesday
Mrs Phillips (Weds, Thurs, Fri) <i>Class Teacher</i>	Mrs Harrison <i>Class Teacher</i> <i>Thursday – Friday</i>
Miss Dunstan <i>Teaching Assistant every morning</i>	Mrs Soppett Moss <i>Teaching Assistant every morning</i>

We hope that you find all the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any further questions about the term ahead, please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to talk to you.

There are a few things that you can do to help us:

- Please ensure that your child reads and brings their Home Learning Record and reading book to school every day. Don't forget sharing books is still enjoyable – even in Year 6! As in previous years, please sign their Home Learning Record when you have read together.
- Please do not hesitate to let us know if your child struggles with a piece of homework (a note on the actual piece of homework, or in their Home Learning Record is fine).

Thank you – the Year 6 team.

Daily Routines

We encourage each child to learn and follow simple daily routines, in order to make them independent and responsible for their own belongings. It would be an enormous help to the staff, and your child, if you could support this by doing the following:

- Dropping your child off promptly, as per the current drop-off plan, allowing them to walk into school ready for their day's learning.
- Giving your child a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat at break time. Please remember that our school policy is fresh fruit and vegetables only.
- Labelling all belongings including clothes, PE kits and shoes.
- Ensuring your child comes to school in their PE kit on their PE day. Children must take earrings out for PE. However, if a child cannot do this, then please provide tape for them to be covered.
- Ensuring your child has their reading book and Home Learning Record, lunch box (if they need one) and water bottle (water only please) with them in the morning.
- Wait for your child at the end of each day, following our current procedures.

Topics for this term

English

English lessons continue to be on a daily basis. We will be studying a range of genres using a variety of books as a stimulus:

- Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastic World Around You by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi – information
- Blackberry Blue and other fairy tales by Jamila Gavin and Richard Collingridge
- Survivors by David Long and Kerry Hyndman

In addition to these units of work, this term we also focus on dialogue and balanced arguments.

Our Guided Reading sessions also continue.

- 6 Redwoods are studying the book: Malala – My Story for Standing Up to Girls' Rights by Malala Yousafzai
- 6 Rowans are studying the book: Wonder by R J Palacio

Our spelling programme will continue as usual. Please help your child by ensuring lists are learned and any related homework is completed to your child's full potential. Learning the Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 key words is also crucial. Please note that English homework is due on Thursdays (it can be brought in earlier though!)

Please encourage your child to read daily and to read a range of texts as this will help with their preparation for SATs. We will also be working on reading comprehension focussing on developing the children's range of reading skills and beginning to hone skills which will support the children with their SATs.

Following requests for activities children can do at home to improve their grammar, we have put together a list of websites below where children can practise their grammar skills in a fun way. There are also grammar study books which can be purchased from shops like W H Smith which may help your child. There is a lot of associated vocabulary to learn!

[KS2 Bitesize Primary Homework Help | Online Games For Kids - BBC Bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize/english/)

[Crickweb KS2 literacy](http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html)

[Woodlands Literacy Zone - Interactive English Games - \(primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk\)](http://www.woodlands-junior.k12.es/)

Maths

During the term we will include further work on the following topics: number and place value; ratio and proportion; algebra; metric units and conversions; measuring angles and constructing 2D shapes; extending work in multiplication and division; revisiting fractions, decimals and percentages; reasoning about shapes and problem solving, which includes strategies on how to use apply knowledge gained. We will continue to practise mental and fluency strategies daily. Please encourage your child to learn their times tables thoroughly to enable speedy recall. This includes the division facts.

Mental maths homework continues to run from Monday to Monday.

For more information about what your children will be learning in maths throughout the year please visit our website www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk. You can also find a useful vocabulary list, some games you might wish to play with your child and a document outlining the progression of written methods in mathematics. The Woodlands Junior Homework website <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/> and BBC Bitesize also has lots of good fun maths games to support your child's learning.

Science

This term we will be looking at 'Animals including humans' and 'Evolution and Inheritance'. During our unit 'Animals, including humans' children learn how to: identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood; recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function; and finally, they learn how to describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans. Our evolution topic will involve finding out about Mary Anning's contribution to palaeontology, exploring genetics, finding out about Charles Darwin and exploring adaptation.

Art/D&T

Firstly, the children will be finishing off an Art unit called 'People in Motion'.

In D&T, we focus on textiles where the children will investigate and analyse items made using a range of different textiles. They then move on to exploring ways in which textiles are joined and decorated. These lessons give the children the necessary skills to design a drawstring bag which they will then make using a sewing machine and other textile skills. To decorate their bag, they will design a small pattern which will then be printed onto it.

In the second half of the term, we will start to focus on the work of Clarice Cliff, ready for the children to make their own clay plates after SATs in the summer.

Geography – The Amazon Rainforest

We will be investigating the diverse climate zones and biomes in South America, focusing on the Amazon Rainforest, a tropical forest biome. We will be finding out why the Amazon Rainforest is important, the challenges it faces, developing an understanding of why the future of the Amazon Rainforest is uncertain.

History – World War 2

We will be studying the lifestyle of children and how they were affected by the war so now is the time to search your attic (or grandparents') to see if you can find any artefacts, we could borrow for our class display e.g. old school books, ID cards and school photos. We are looking forward to our trip to Hendon where the children will partake in a couple of workshops to enrich their learning.

Computing - Variables in Games and Introduction to Spreadsheets

The first unit explores the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. The children will find out what variables are and relate them to real-world examples of values that can be set and changed. The second unit teaches the children how to use a spreadsheet.

RE

We begin our World Faith unit on Buddhism this term, particularly looking at how Buddha taught his followers to find enlightenment.

PSHCE

We will be spending this term working through the Positive Minds course, in association with Watford Football Club Outreach.

PE

This term we will focus on hockey, badminton, parkour, archery and ultimate frisbee.

Music

We were lucky to have the Monks Walk Music Leaders here last term, teaching the children to play the Ukulele. Part of this term we will focus on consolidating what they have learnt, and we will learn four main chords and the notation relating to each chord structure.

French

We will continue to learn a range of vocabulary, practising skills we have learnt in the Autumn Term

WEEKLY ARRANGEMENTS - TERM 2

Monday	Mental Maths homework due in for marking
Thursday	Spelling test / and English homework due in
Friday	New spellings and English homework given out

Please keep checking the monthly newsletters for any new events

Ways to help your child in Year 6

- ☺ Your child should still be reading everyday so please encourage this. It is also useful to check home learning records regularly for any information about homework etc and sign at the bottom at least once a week.
- ☺ Continue to develop your child's mental maths skills by revising times tables and practising calculations. Use our website for ideas. Learning times tables should be a part of your daily home-routine. Please record any home-learning in your child's home learning record.
- ☺ Together, with your child, use the blue grammar book sent home. Revise all the areas.
- ☺ Encourage your child to come to school prepared for the day ahead with a pencil, blue pen (not biro), ruler, rubber, glue stick and any homework needed for that day.
- ☺ Ensure PE kit is worn on the correct days. Clearly name hoodies so that they can be returned.
- ☺ Make sure that they are using age-appropriate games and apps on any devices that they may have.

The BBC also does a great site called [BiteSize KS2](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary) which allows the children to revise for the tests in a fun way. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Please keep checking the newsletters for any new events.

E-Safety

Below is some important information on the school's policies on taking photographs of children as well as a copy of the e-safety agreement that the children sign.

Using Images Safely and Responsibly

We all enjoy and treasure images of our family and friends. Our new born baby, first steps, family events, holidays and school events are moments we all like to capture in photos or on video. We then have the added and exciting dimension of adding our images and video to our social network, such as Facebook, YouTube and many other online websites. This means that we can easily share our photos and video with family and friends.

Whilst this is naturally useful, in schools and educational settings we do need to protect and safeguard all children and staff in our school, including those who do not want to have their images stored online.

Online Images and Video. What should we think about before adding online any images or video?

Are there any risks?

Facts

- Once online any image or video can be copied and stay online forever.
- Some children are at risk and MUST NOT have their image put online. Not all members of the school community will know who they are.
- Some people do not want their images online for personal or religious reasons.
- Some children and staff may have a complex family background which means that image sharing online can have unforeseen consequences.

We must all 'Think Before We Post' online

At Welwyn St. Mary's School we are happy for parents and carers to take photos and video of the school events and productions for personal use but request that these images are not distributed or put online. This is to protect all members of the school community.

Thank you for your support.

Please note: From time to time, we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in our school. This might be on our website or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety.

If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used in this way, please send a letter in to your child's teacher.

Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / E- Safety Rules

- I will only use computing devices in school for school purposes.
- I will only use my class e-mail address or my own school e-mail address when e-mailing
- I will only open e-mail attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved.
- I will not tell other people my passwords.
- I will only open / delete my own file.
- I will make sure that all computing content with other children and adults is responsible, sensible and polite.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I

accidentally find anything like this, I will tell my teacher immediately.

- I will not give out my own details such as my name, phone number or home address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my school teacher and an adult comes with me.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using devices because I know that these rules keep me safe.
- I know that my use of computing devices can be checked and that my parent / carer will be contacted by a member of staff if they are concerned about my safety.

Important Dates:

11th-12th February

Parent consultations

16th – 20th February

February Half term holiday

19th January

SATs meeting for parents at 2.00 pm

5th March

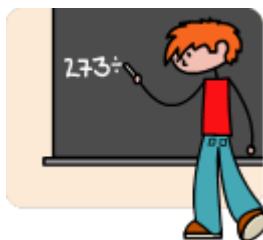
World Book Day

27th March

Term ends at 1.20 pm

Please keep checking the newsletters for any new events.

Thank you for continuing to support us with your child's learning.
Mrs Charles, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Mather, Mrs Phillips



Our Uniform

Our school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

School Uniform	
Trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore	Grey
Polo shirt, shirt, blouse (with or without logo)	White
School sweatshirt, cardigan *(with or without logo)	Maroon
Plain sensible shoes (no trainers, sandals or boots)	Black
Socks/tights (not trainer socks)	Plain grey
School pink check cotton dress and plain white socks (maybe worn in summer term and up to October half term only)	
*Preferably children should have one sweatshirt or cardigan with a logo	
Additional items	
Water bottle (named)	
Sun hat (in summer)	
Reception and Year 1 – School book bag from uniform supplier	
Year 2 – Year 6 – Small rucksack	
Hair accessories- small plain clips, bands, ribbons in brown, black or maroon	
Key stage 2 - Shin pads for hockey and football	
Optional fleece or jacket with school logo for outdoor use	
PE Kit	
Plain PE shorts	Black
Long plain tracksuit bottoms for colder weather	Black
Trainers for outdoor games	
PE hoodie with house coloured logo	Available from uniform suppliers
Key Stage 1 and Reception only	
Coloured 'house' T-shirt	Available from the school office
Key Stage 2 only	
PE polo shirt with coloured house logo	Available from uniform suppliers
PE kit should be worn to school on PE days	

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud only earrings (no other piercings are permitted). Earrings must be taken out or taped for PE (please provide surgical tape).
- A sensible wristwatch (a smartwatch maybe worn if 'classroom mode' is enabled at all times), whilst on the school site and school trips etc.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school.

Hair

• Long hair needs to be tied back for school, this is for safety and hygiene reasons and to ensure that children's vision is not impeded. Hair should not be cut too short and should not have designs / tramlines shaven into it.

- Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted.
- Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands or ribbons in brown, black or maroon are acceptable.

At the Headteacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

Make-Up

Pupils are not allowed to wear make-up or nail varnish. False nails are not permitted.

Labelling

All clothing, shoes, water bottles and school bags should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.