



Welcome Back

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a fun-filled summer holiday and that you're ready for some exciting and challenging learning in Year Six!

Franciscan Values

As a school, we continue to celebrate our Franciscan heritage through our seven values – based on the Franciscan values. The seven values are: Joy, Forgiveness, Faith, Respect, Service, Peace and Stewardship. These underpin all that we do as a school. We will all strive to live out these values on a daily basis but each class will pay close attention to their own value. In Year 6, our value is **stewardship**. God cares for the world, in fact, one of the first instructions he gave to humankind was to look after the land. So, we believe it is our responsibility to care for the earth. This is called stewardship; **looking after the world to pass on to the next generation**. Throughout Year 6, we will try and promote stewardship in school and as part of our everyday life. We have already started by providing each class with dedicated recycling bins for glue sticks!

R.E.

Beginning this September, Year 6 (along with EYFS and Year 2) will be following the new RED (Religious Education Directory), To Know You More Clearly, launched by the Catholic Education Service. This framework will be progressively rolled out across the school, replacing the Come And See scheme by the 2025 academic year.

Our topic in RE this half-term is 'Covenant and Creation'. Our big question for this topic is "Is belief in Creation compatible with scientific accounts of the beginnings of the universe and the theory of evolution?". We will explore the work of Catholic scientists such as Mendel and Lemaître and we will revisit the first sacrament, Baptism. The knowledge organiser for this topic can be found on the class webpage.

CANTERBURY ADVENT 1

Year 6 are also leading a Celebration of the Word on **Thursday 3rd October**. Families of Year 6 pupils are welcome to join us in the school hall for a 3pm start.

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will begin with place value up to 10,000,000. This will be followed by two units on the four main operations. Daily arithmetic practice also takes place each morning to help support the four main operations (+ - x and ÷). Please encourage your child to access TimesTablesRockstars regularly to consolidate their multiplication and division skills.

English

Writing: In our Talk for Writing lessons this term, we will begin with a narrative poetry unit on The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. In this unit, we will invent a narrative poem building upon multiple different character perspectives.

Following this, we will be employing our persuasive tactics to create a visitor's guide to Belper.

Reading: The children are delighted with our latest reading venture; **Accelerated Reader!** This replaces our old home reading scheme, MyBookBlog, after they announced their end this summer. Accelerated Reader is an online programme used to motivate students to increase their reading and vocabulary comprehension. Like MyBookBlog, children are able to complete a quiz after finishing a book and can also access a variety of non-fiction articles to read! A parent introduction letter will be making its way home soon – please keep a look out for this!

This half term, our class read is **Can You See Me?** by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott. This is books walks us through a first-person account of Tally and her experiences of starting secondary school as an autistic person.

As a reminder, the children should continue to utilise their reading bookmarks at home, on which they are to write down any words that they are unfamiliar with or have struggled to pronounce. We still encourage a minimum of 10 minutes home-reading every day; the more often, the better! This could be independently, to a grown-up or to a sibling.

Your child will also now have their own 'Reading Journal', in which they can make notes and drawings about what they have read to help assist them when taking their end of book quiz. This is for both home and school use so please ensure that it is returned to their school bag once used.

Your child is expected to bring their home-reading book into school once a week, on a set day (which the children are aware of). This is so that teachers and teaching assistants can listen to them read and track their progress. If your child fails to bring their book two weeks in a row, you will receive a letter making you aware of this.

Spellings

We are continuing with our Read, Write, Inc. spelling lessons, which will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. As it was last year, please encourage regular practice of the words that come home in your child's logbook. These will be tested in a low-stakes, formative, partner-test at the end of each lesson cycle. We have also introduced a further spelling lesson on a Monday morning, in which children can access the Mastery Zone on SpellingShed. This is an AI-driven tool that ensures each student's learning is focused on the words and spelling patterns that they – individually – need to master, in order to make progress. Please encourage use of this at home!

P.E.

The children will have two P.E. lessons each week; **Tuesdays** (Tennis) and **Wednesdays** (Gymnastics). Children are to come to school in their active uniform on these days. Please ensure all active uniform items are fully labelled! Long hair should be tied back, and earrings removed on P.E. days. Whilst we advise against it, if your child's earrings are new and unable to be taken out, they must be taped over with surgical tape, brought in from home.

Willersley Castle Residential

Both the children and Year 6 staff are so excited for our upcoming 2-night residential to Willersley Castle on Wednesday November 13th. Permission forms are being sent home shortly and are to be returned **by Thursday 26th September**.

Belper Youth Council

Congratulations to our very own Bess, who has been elected to join the Belper Youth Council. This is a space for representatives to contribute and express their views on Belper. We can't wait to hear all about it, Bess!

Secondary School Choices

You must apply for a secondary school place by **Thursday October 31st**. Due to the clash between our prior Y5/6 school production and their prior open evenings, **John Flamsteed are inviting our children in for an open evening on Wednesday 18th September at 4.30pm**. You must confirm your attendance to this event by emailing hamptonj@jfcs.org.uk. We are aware this clashes with our Meet the Teacher event, but powerpoint slides will be sent home for this in advance and you are more than welcome to arrange a meeting with me on a different date if you have any questions or worries.



The timings of Belper School's open evening are yet to be confirmed but we will send this information to you once available.

Homework

Homework in Y6 will be predominantly Maths and grammar based; often low-stakes assessments undertaken in class, which they are to correct themselves. Our school calculation policy, along with tutorial videos, have been uploaded onto the homework tab of our class page to help you support your children with homework. It is much appreciated!

Class 'X' (previously Twitter)

You can follow us on 'X', previously known as Twitter, (@stlizclass18) to see what we are getting up to in class each week and keep up to date with any class notices. This is the same account that you followed in Year Five so hopefully this won't create an extra job for you!

If you have any quick questions, please feel free to speak to me at the end of the school day, once all of the children have been dismissed. If, at that point, you feel you require a longer appointment, we can arrange a meeting via the school office (01773 822278).

We are really looking forward to an exciting half term and a fun-filled year! Thank you in advance for your support.

Miss Holmes, Miss Booth & Miss Shally.

Dates For Your Diary

18.09.24	15.45-16.15 or 16.30-17:00	Meet the Teacher You are invited to come and meet us in the classroom to find out about the curriculum and routines in Year 6. You need only attend one of the above sessions and we will send out a copy of our presentation so do not worry if you cannot attend.
27.09.24	14:30-15:30	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon You are invited to join other parents and members of the school community to nibble, natter and raise funds for the amazing work done by Macmillan Cancer Support. The children are invited to bring in cakes on this day to be sold and money to spend at the cake sale. We'll be holding a raffle too!
03.10.24	15:00-15:30	Year 6 Class Celebration of the Word You are invited to join us as the class lead a Celebration of the Word for the whole school community. The children will be planning and preparing the celebration.
07.10.24	Ongoing	Harvest Appeal Launches Please begin to bring in donations for our Harvest Appeal. Donations will be sent to Hope for Belper Food and Community Hub. More information to follow.
17.10.24	15:00 – 15:30	Harvest Celebration You are invited to join us in the school hall for our Harvest celebrations. This will be led by our school Chaplaincy Team but all of the classes will be joining in with different elements.
18.10.24	All Day	Times Table Rock Star Day We will be holding our annual relaunch of TT Rock stars. The children are invited to dress up as 'rock stars' on this day and we will be doing lots of maths and counting activities in class.
23.10.24 24.10.24	15:40 – 18:00	Parents' Consultation Evenings Please look out for details from the school office about booking appointments via School Cloud.
w/c 28.10.24	HALF TERM	
04.11.24	Children return to school	
06.11.24	15:40 – 18:00	Parents' APDR Consultation Evening Please look out for details from the school office about booking appointments via School Cloud or face-to-face.