



Year 6 Autumn 2026 Curriculum Information



What we are learning:

Maths

At the Grove, we follow 'Herts Essentials' and will be covering the following units: number and place value; mental calculation and problem-solving including time; fractions; multiplication and division; statistics.

During this first term, we will be focusing heavily on securing and mastering arithmetic skills. In the build up to SATs, we will be completing weekly arithmetic papers, which will be marked and handed back to the children for self-assessment of what they need to work on. Children always take great pride in seeing their improvements as the weeks progress.

English

At the start of term, we focused on honing oracy skills. This was taught alongside a whole school text: 'Varmints' by Helen Ward and illustrated by Marc Craste, about a small woodland creature struggling to protect its peaceful, natural home from rapid urbanization. In coming weeks, we will be using 'The Lost Words' poetry by Robert Macfarlane to inspire vocabulary choices and 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell to create powerful character descriptions. In the latter half of the term, we will be exploring the nuance of genre writing. The children will produce a variety of story openings that set the scene in different genres: fantasy, horror and mystery. We end this term developing narrative skills, taking inspiration from 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes.

Science

Living Things and their Habitats (life cycles and classification.) Big question: How and why do scientists classify living things?

Animals including Humans. Understanding what makes a healthy lifestyle. Big question: How can we keep our hearts healthy? We learn about the circulatory systems and how exercise affects heart rate.

History

World War One We will be starting an in-depth exploration of World War One and Two. In the Autumn term, we will specifically be focusing on the First World War and the events that led to it, key figures, and life at this time across the world. Throughout this unit, we will be immersing children in books, writing and experiences from the period.

How you can help at home

You could visit:

*Lincolnsfield Children's centre, reenactment WW1/WW2
Science museum and explore the use and history of electricity.*

The colourful sketches and first impressions of South America at the V & A museum in London.

Imperial War Museum, London

De Havilland Aircraft Museum, London Colney

*IWM Duxford, Cambridge
Chiltern open Air Museum,
Chalfont Saint Giles*

North Herts Museum, Hitchin

Read:

Middeworld by K&P Voelkel

The Curse of the Maya by

Johnny Pearce & Andy

Loneragan

Journey to the River Sea by

Eva Ibbotson

Running Wild by Michael

Morpurgo

Geography

Locational knowledge and map skills We will be using maps to locate the world's countries and continents with a focus on and South America, looking at the key physical features and the human characteristics including major cities.

We will then apply a range of geographical skills to a case study of South America. Focusing on countries, varying climates, topographical features and current issues surrounding climate change and deforestation.

Art

Reduction printing. We will use a single polystyrene template to layer colour to create a composition. We will take inspiration from a range of artists: Romero Britto, Lisa Congdon, Andy Warhol and Henri Matisse.

Computing

We start by looking at online safety and how to stay safe while accessing the internet. In year 6, children begin to have a lot more freedom and access to devices and it is vital that they understand and use the tools available to them, that are designed to keep them safe. Following this, children will learn what Artificial Intelligence (AI) is and how it enables machines to learn from data. Pupils will understand that AI tools are for enhancing and augmenting human thinking, not replacing it. They will explore ways to approach AI safely, understanding data protection and knowing how to ask for help or support. Students will also develop skills to identify what is real and fictional when interacting with AI, using critical thinking to spot misinformation. They will also explore bias, hallucinations and understand the concern over the anthropomorphism and personification of AI. In addition, pupils will practically engage in machine learning activities online, and unplugged activities in the classroom and design their own AI system with an ethical approach.

P.E.

- Invasion games – Netball, Tag Rugby and football
- Dance and Movement

Music

We will be beginning to examine and explore the keyboard. We hope by the end of the unit, pupils will be able to read and play simple tunes, perform with both hands, and begin to create their own musical ideas. *Whilst we may have some proficient keyboard players, their skills will be very much appreciated in supporting their peers..... AND THE ADULTS IN CLASS TOO!*

Armistice Runner By Tom

Palmer

Private Peaceful by Michael

Morpurgo

The Silver Hand by Terry

Deary

Watch:

World War one on CBBC

War Horse (Movie)

Spy Watch Series on Youtube

Talk about:

Deforestation of the

Rainforest

Palm oil and looking at what food contain it

Family members from WW2

Try these websites:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/topics/history/world-war-i/>

<https://ttrockstars.com/>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://login.mathletics.com/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

Religious Education and Worldviews.

We will be exploring worship and beliefs of Buddhism and comparing these to our own lives, opinions and belief systems. We continue to focus on the themes; What it means to be me, what it means to be you and What it means to be human. We then focus on Christianity and why most Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah. We welcome Jump!, the Harpenden volunteer organization to lead our lesson on how Christmas fits with Christian beliefs of Jesus.

French

French History: La Révolution. Numbers: recapping knowledge of 1-100. Calculation vocabulary. My Family and me: at the hospital, My community, Homes and houses. Colour: shades and objects. All about animals: description of body parts.

	Year 6 Autumn 2026 General Information		
PE	Elder: Tuesday and Wednesday Acer: Wednesday and Thursday Redwood: Tuesday and Wednesday Children to wear PE kits to school on days when they have a PE lesson. Please remember that no jewellery should be worn on these days. Where new earrings cannot be taken out, they must be taped up at home.		
Values	Running through our curriculum will be the 3Rs: Responsibility, Resilience and Respect.		
Homework expectations	Homework will be handed out on Wednesday and are due back the following Tuesday for marking. Homework that is handed in on time and to good quality, will receive house-points. Expectation: • Weekly maths activity on mathletics to recap the learning of the week • Daily reading recorded in planner: date, pages, book, parent signature • Evidence of spelling practise on 3 separate days		
Contact	acer@grovejm.herts.sch.uk elder@grovejm.herts.sch.uk redwood@grovejm.herts.sch.uk		