



# The Mall School

## Year 6 Summer Curriculum Guide

### English

In the summer term, boys continue to build on the skills they established for 11+ and revise essential strategies to complete tasks in comprehension and writing, ready for Year 7 at their senior schools. We focus on bridging to Key Stage 3 as the boys come to the end of their primary education. We read a range of texts and explore a class reader with links to Shakespeare. Every boy in Year 6 is involved with a production that is performed at the end of term and links with English and drama. Boys are encouraged to read a range of challenging texts that they will be expected to know in KS3 English and they continue to use Accelerated Reader to monitor their comprehension of the books read.

### Maths

During the summer term the boys will complete a carousel of activities:

- Investigations (with Mr Fair)  
This will involve working independently and in small groups to solve both number investigations and shape investigations.
- Pascal's Triangle and Fractals (with Dr Miller)  
This will see the boys searching for patterns and sequences in Pascal's triangle and then how fractals can develop as the result of a sequence.
- Microsoft Excel (with Mr Miller)  
This topic will look at different formulae that can be used in this program and how it can be applied to everyday situations.

The second part of the summer term will see the Y6 boys completing a backpacking project where they will be placed in small groups and asked to find a way around the world. This will cover topics including: estimating addition and subtraction of money; using World Time Zones for international flights; reading flight times and the 24 hour clock; converting different currencies back to pound sterling; budgeting an amount of money; planning excursions and others. When the boys have completed their budgets (using Excel), they will then present their projects to the rest of the class.

## Science

The themes this term are micro-organisms, disease, and electricity. We explore the different kinds of micro-organisms, concentrating on fungi, bacteria and viruses. We consider the role of bacteria and viruses in spreading infectious disease, Lister's discovery of antiseptics, the story of the discovery of antibiotics, and the nature of our immune system. We explore the basic principles of electricity, electric circuits, and electricity generation, and consider some key moments in the history of electricity. We undertake a project on a great scientist of our choice.

## History

This term we will be finishing the One Hundred Years War (a brief study of the Battle of Agincourt and the consequences of that war). That will lead us into the Renaissance, the Voyages of Discovery, European colonisation and empires and the Atlantic Slave trade. Slavery as a human institution will also be focused upon.

## RS

This term we shall be studying Humanism and its relationship with religion in different societies and in different periods. There will be a cross-over with Year 6 history as the Renaissance will be briefly covered there. We shall also investigate the religion versus ideology debate (referring back to, 'What is religion?' covered in September), and the 'godless societies' of totalitarian regimes for comparison.

## Geography

In Year 6 in the Summer Term, the boys will be studying weather and climate. They will look at the different types of rainfall, the factors which affect our climate, and compare Britain's climate with Singapore's.

## French

The key objectives in French are: to engage our pupils and communicate our passion for French and modern languages in general, to unlock the full potential of our students' ability to speak and write French, to promote a love of speaking a foreign language through entertaining and engaging teaching techniques and to introduce our students to the culture, geography and history of France. These key objectives are covered alongside others in the units of work in each term. The topic areas and grammar for the Summer Term are as follows: descriptions (physical and personality); revision of the present tense (regular and irregular verbs); answer questions about yourself (in speaking and writing); the near future (describing a summer holiday).

## Music

We will be studying music from West Africa and boys will learn to play a range of cyclic drumming patterns including dunun, djembe, dununba, sangban, kenkeni plus an aural starting and stopping signal. They will continue to develop the ability to play in an ensemble, to feel the pulse, to watch and take cues from each other and from a 'master drummer'. We will be learning about structures within traditional West African drumming music (including main groove, call and response, solo break, signal) and they will work in small groups to compose their own 'African pieces'. There will be opportunities to explore ways of notating their work and to develop rehearsal, performance and appraisal skills.

## Latin

Y6 boys will continue to use the course book, Minimus 1 and depending on the rate of progress, possibly the start of Minimus 2. These resources provide an opportunity for boys to translate simple stories in Latin, to understand some vocabulary and grammar and to identify derivations in English and French. The key objectives are: to engage and maintain both interest and curiosity about the Graeco-Roman world, to introduce boys to aspects of the Latin language, to provide a stimulating environment for the development of skills related to the learning of Latin, to establish links between the Latin language and English and to introduce boys to non-linguistic aspects of the ancient world with particular reference to Greek myth. In the Summer Term, boys will increase their knowledge of military vocabulary and will revisit points of grammar such as agreement between nouns and adjectives, regular and irregular verb endings, and comparatives. We will also look at various aspects of Roman life and times including Roman baths, medicine and the army as well as continuing to read and re-tell a number of Greek and Roman myths and legends.

## Current Affairs

Current Affairs replaces NVR in the summer term and allows the boys to explore a range of current topics in the news and the world they live in. Lessons consist of small group work and whole class discussions. The boys are taught how to research, debate and share ideas on important social issues.

## Drama

In the summer term, Year 6 boys get to develop their drama skills by appearing in their own year group play devised and written by the school's link professional director and writer, Liz Mance. Every boy in Year 6 takes part in the play and they boys learn all about putting on a production for public performance, as well as preparing posters, props and costumes. In drama lessons the boys continue to develop their skills in interpreting scripts, improvisation and stagecraft.

## Art/Design and Technology

Year 6 after a long stint of Art at home over lockdown will reacquaint themselves with the workshop and get straight back into using the tools and machinery after familiarising themselves again with the safe working rules and regulations. As their swansong before the leavers program starts the boys will complete two projects. The first will be a jitterbug creation based on the principles of an eccentric wheel powered by an electric motor involving circuitry and some woodwork while the final project will be the very fun and impressive pneumatic rocket project which should see the more successful rockets travel up to 100m.

## Digital skills

Year 6 this Summer Term are going to begin by polishing off their entries for the Inter-House Coding Competition before starting a Powerpoint presentation/slideshow capturing memories of their time at The Mall... which hopefully they will treasure for years to come!

## Games

In Year 6 the boys develop cricket further with a hard ball and will begin to specialise in positions in the field. Matches are played as far as possible 11v11 with adaptations as required. The role of the captain become more important. Boys are split into ability groups and train in squads for the cricket season which takes place this term. The objective is for each boy to represent the school in competitive matches against other schools and for our better players to aspire to play in the A and B teams. All boys travel to Sunbury Cricket Club for their Games Afternoons.

## PE

Boys continue to develop Tennis and their Basketball skills. Pupils will be expected to take more responsibility for the planning and accuracy of their performances. Pupils will know the formal rules of both activities using this knowledge to self-officiate.

## Swimming

In the Summer Term, the boys develop back stroke and butterfly further whilst looking at relay changeovers. Times are taken over 20 metres to measure improvement and the better boys are invited to represent the school in competitive swimming galas both Nationally and against local opposition.