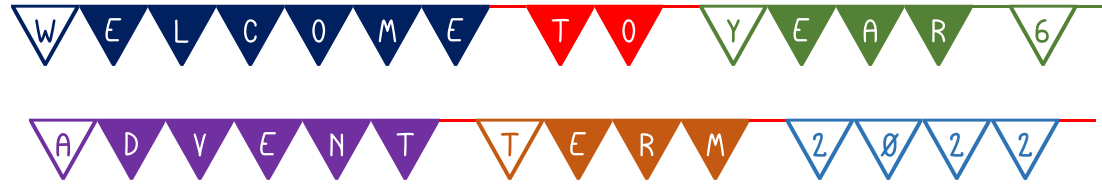




The Good Shepherd
Catholic Academy



Dates for the Diary

<u>Advent Term Dates</u>	<u>Academic Year 2022-23 Dates</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet the Teacher – Tuesday 20th September at 3:30pm. Mission Day – Monday 26th September. Parents' Evening – Thursday 6th October. Bishops' Mass - Monday 10th October. Monday 31st October – Deadline for secondary school applications. Remembrance Day Liturgy led by Year 6 - Friday 11th November. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SATs Week – Monday 8th May – Thursday 11th May. The Briars Residential, Crich – Monday 19th June – Friday 23rd June (additional letter to follow this half term). End of Year 6 Production – w/b 17th July.

Meet the Year 6 Team

- Mr. Barfield (6JB Class Teacher)
- Mrs. Moore (6AM Class Teacher)
- Mrs. McCulloch (Teaching Assistant)
- Miss Grewal (Teaching Assistant)
- Mr. Connolly (PE)
- Ms. Donnelly (Music)
- Madame Naturel (French)

Keep up to date

For current blog entries, photos, calendar events letters home and newsletters visit:
www.goodshepherd.notts.sch.uk



Follow us on Twitter @thegsaprimary

We are very proud of our school website. You can find all the information/keys dates you need on there, plus extra work and recommended reading lists to support your children.



General Information



- As a school, we have a range of methods to communicate with you. Please see Mrs. Toner's recent letter about school communication.
- Independence skills are a life skill which you can help your child to develop by encouraging them to empty their bag every day and hand you letters, their Homework Diary containing messages or any other information. This is especially important in Year 6 as we work together to prepare the children for secondary school.
- It is essential that EVERY uniform item is clearly labelled as it wastes a lot of valuable learning time identifying lost items. Please send your child in with an appropriately sized bag, just big enough to fit their reading folder and a NAMED water bottle.
- KS2 Celebration Assembly will take place every fortnight at 2:45. Parents are welcome to join us.

Behaviour at the Good Shepherd Academy

We are very proud of our children and the way in which they behave. Our behaviour management is rooted in love, forgiveness and the Gospel values. Through our nurturing approach, we encourage the children to see themselves as unique individuals made in God's image and we seek to accentuate the positive in each child.

However, there are times when children will need a reminder to make the right choices regarding their behaviour and to reflect on any wrong choices that they make. Our behaviour system helps them to do this.

Please see our Behaviour Policy on The Good Shepherd School website for more information.

English – Writing

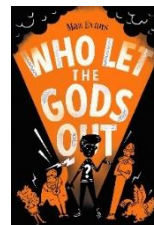
- Description setting – Describing the Galapagos Islands.
- Diary entry – from the perspective of Covington (main character from Darwin's Dragons).
- Poetry – Remembrance/War poems.
- Character description – Medusa/Ancient Greek myths.
- Balanced argument – Athens and Sparta (achievements of the Ancient Greek city states).



English – Reading

Advent 1 Text – 'Darwin's Dragons' by Lindsay Galvin (linked to our Science topic – Evolution and Inheritance).

Advent 2 Text – 'Who Let the Gods Out' By Maz Evans (linked to our History topic – Ancient Greece).



MATHS



This term we will be focusing on the following areas:

- Place value (reading, writing, order, comparing numbers up to 10 million; rounding numbers; negative numbers).
- Four operations (addition, subtractions multiplication and division; factors and multiplies).
- Fractions (comparing and ordering; simplifying; adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions; fractions of amounts).
- Converting measures (metric measures and their equivalences; imperial measures and their equivalences; miles to kilometers).
- Key number facts (e.g. times tables) will be practiced regularly.

Religious Education



- Key topics: Loving, Vocation and Commitment and Expectations.
- Judaism Week: w/b 14th November.
- Children will have regular opportunities to take part and lead collective worships in class and across the school.
- Year 6 children have the opportunity to support the parish community by reading at The Good Shepherd church. More information will be sent out regarding this.



SCIENCE



Our Science topics this term are the following:

- Evolution and inheritance. The children will learn about Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution. They will explore how animals inherit features from their parents and how they can adapt to their environment in order to survive.
- Animals, including humans – the circulatory system and healthy lifestyles. The children will learn about the human heart, as well as its key features and functions. They will have the opportunity to dissect a lamb's heart. The children will explore how diet, exercise and drugs affect our lifestyles.

Geography

In Advent 1, our Geography topic is called 'The North and South Pole'. We learn about the location, climate and key geographical features of the polar regions, as well as explore the types of plants and animals that have adapted to survive in these unique habitats. The children will also consider the impact of climate change on the polar regions.



HISTORY



In Advent 2, our History topic will focus on the Ancient Greeks and we will explore the question 'What did the Greeks do for us?'

We will explore the following themes: where the Ancient Greeks fit into the chronology of other periods taught, city states (Athens and Sparta), the ancient Olympic Games, Greek gods, warfare and the legacy and impact of the Ancient Greeks on Western Civilisation today. Children will make links to other historical periods they have studied, such as the Romans.

Computing

This term we will be focusing on the following topics in our Computing lessons:

- Coding
- E-Safety (linked to anti-bullying week)

In school we use Purple Mash. Children can access this at home by using their logins (found in their Homework Diary). Homework will occasionally be set through Purple Mash for Computing work or other lessons.



PSHE

Our PSHE focus is physical and mental health. We will be exploring the following themes: the differences between physical and mental health, strategies to cope with strong feelings, how to seek support for their mental health and strategies to cope with loss and bereavement.

In Advent 2, our focus is 'Keeping Safe'. We will learn how to have a healthy lifestyle, how to keep safe online and how to seek out new opportunities.



MUSIC

Music lessons will take place on a Thursday with Miss Donnelly who is part of the Our Lady of Lourdes Music Team. All children will have the opportunity to learn to play a ukulele, starter flute (toot) or starter clarinet (dood). Their lessons will also include theory-based work, including reading music, composition and exploring the features of music in order to prepare them for secondary school.



French

The children will continue to revisit key learning from their Year 5 French lessons. They will also be learning the following this term:

- Name parts of the body
- Give generic names for family members
- Review colours and introduce other adjectives to describe people/places: grand, petit, jeune, vieux, beau

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Year 6 will have their PE lessons on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. They will need to come to school in their PE kits on these days.
- Mrs. Moore and Mr. Barfield will teach PE on a Wednesday. This term we will cover 'Tag Rugby' and 'Hockey'.
- Mr. Connelly will teach PE on a Thursday. This term Mr. Connelly will cover 'Football' and 'Dodgeball'.

ART AND DT

In Advent 1, our art focus will be sculptures, creating moths from wire and natural materials. We will use 'Moth' by Isabel Thomas and the work of Cathy Miles.

In Advent 2, our DT topic is called 'Marbelous Structures'. The children will design and create their own marble run game! We need lots of cardboard for this, so we'd appreciate any donations around October time. Likewise, if you have any old marble run games you no longer need, these will come in handy for us to use in lessons.

Homework

Year 6 will receive homework a range of homework throughout the year:

- Daily reading (20mins+), at least twice with an adult at home.
- Weekly spellings – given out, and tested, on Thursdays.
- Daily mental maths – developing quick recall of facts, e.g. use knowledge of place value and multiplication facts to 12×12 to derive multiplication and division facts involving decimals, e.g. $0.8 \times 7 = 5.4$.
- Weekly maths task linked to current learning (20 mins) – given out every Thursday, due back every Monday.
- Weekly knowledge organiser task linked to the subject driver (20 mins).
- SAT's preparation/revision (Feb onwards).

Homework will be handed out on a Wednesday and returned the following Wednesday.