History, Geography, Art and Music.

Year 6 Spring 1:
How have rivers and mountains shaped stories and people through time?

What we're reading:
Lands of Belonging

How can we bring rivers and mountains to life in our writing, showing their wonder and importance?

What we're writing:	1. Setting description. 2. Non-chronological report on the Himalayas. 3. Character description.

Important people or places:
Authors: William Wordsworth, Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde, Samuel Selvon, Carol Ann Duffy.
Geography: The Ganges, The Himalayas, and the history of India.

As Geographers, we will study the processes that shape rivers—erosion, deposition, and transportation—and how these create key landforms such as waterfalls and river courses. We will also examine latitude and longitude, understanding the roles of the Equator, tropics, and polar circles in global patterns and climate zones. Additionally, we will delve into the physical and human geography of In, mapping its physical features and cities, and analysing how natural resources, settlements, and infrastructure are interconnected.

As Historians, we will use historical skills such as placing events in chronological order, sequencing key developments, and analysing the significance of inventions and empires. Partition, which occurred in 1947, was the division of British India into two independent countries, India and Pakistan. Exploring this topic allows students to understand the impact of geography on human migration, conflict, and identity.

As Artists, we will study techniques like line, tone, texture, and perspective, focusing on how to create depth and emotion in our artwork. By exploring colour mixing and experimenting with different brushes, we will bring our compositions to life. Through sketching, planning, and reflecting on our work, we will develop personal styles and showcase our understanding of composition and the visual impact of these landscapes.

As Musicians, we will be developing our instrumental and vocal skills by learning about Jazz. We will learn about several key trail blazers of the style through songs and listening and have a go at skat singing. We will learn to play a 12-bar blues using Ukuleles, Keyboards and our own instruments and perform a piece as a class together.

Humanities Vocabulary	Definition

Geography:

Rivers

Erosion: The process where river water wears away rocks and soil along its path, reshaping the landscape.
Deposition: The process where rivers drop sediments in a new location, forming features like deltas and floodplains.
Transportation: The movement of materials like sediments, rocks, and soil by the river's flow.

Lines of latitude and longitude

Latitude: Imaginary horizontal lines around the Earth, measuring distance north or south of the Equator.
Longitude: Imaginary vertical lines measuring distance east or west of the Prime Meridian
Equator: The central latitude line dividing the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
Tropics: Regions between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn, characterized by warm climates and ecosystems.
Polar Circles: Imaginary lines near the poles, marking areas with extreme sunlight variations.
Greenwich Meridian Line: The line of longitude at 0°, used as the reference point for measuring longitude and dividing the Earth into the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

History

Empire: A large group of states or countries ruled over by a single authority.
Chronological Order: Arranging events in the order they happened.
Invention: A new creation or device, often inspired by the resources or challenges.
Partition: The division of a country into separate parts; in this case, the 1947 division of India into India and Pakistan.

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As Mathematicians, we will introduce **algebra**, focusing on understanding function machines and solving for unknown values. Through practical examples and step-by-step problem-solving, students will build confidence in recognising patterns and relationships in numbers. Following this, we will shift our focus to **decimals**, exploring place value to ensure a strong foundation. We will learn to order and compare decimals and develop fluency in multiplying and dividing decimals, applying these skills to real-world contexts. These lessons will emphasise reasoning and problem-solving, enabling students to deepen their mathematical understanding and apply their knowledge confidently.

Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics (STEM):

Building on our learning from last term, **as scientists**, we will be investigating the workings of the **human body**, with a special focus on the **circulatory system**. We will begin by identifying and naming the main components of this system, including the **heart**, **blood vessels**, and **blood**, and learning about their essential roles in maintaining life and health. We will continue to explore how the **heart** functions as a pump, how **blood vessels** transport blood throughout the body, and how **blood** carries oxygen and nutrients to where they are needed. Through hands-on investigations, models, and experiments, we will deepen our understanding of how this vital system works together to keep us alive.

STEM Vocabulary	Definition
Algebra	using letters, symbols, and numbers to represent relationships and solve equations.
Decimals	Numbers that include a dot (decimal point) to show parts smaller than one, like tenths or hundredths. For example, 0.5 is a decimal meaning half, and 0.25 means a quarter.

Heart: A muscular organ that pumps blood through the blood vessels.
Blood Vessels: Tubes that carry blood throughout the body, including arteries, veins, and capillaries.
Arteries: Blood vessels that carry oxygen-rich blood away from the heart to the body.
Veins: Blood vessels that carry oxygen-depleted blood back to the heart.
Capillaries: Tiny blood vessels where oxygen and nutrients are exchanged with tissues.
Blood: The fluid that circulates in the body, transporting oxygen, nutrients, and waste products.
- **Red Blood Cells**: Cells that carry oxygen to the body's tissues.
- **White Blood Cells**: Cells that help fight infection and disease.
- **Platelets**: Small cell fragments that help blood clot.
- **Plasma**: The liquid part of blood that carries cells, nutrients, and waste.

Key Processes and Concepts:
Oxygenated Blood: Blood rich in oxygen, carried from the lungs to the body.
Deoxygenated Blood: Blood low in oxygen, carried back to the lungs from the body.
Respiration: The process by which oxygen is used to produce energy in cells.
Pulse: The rhythmic throbbing of arteries as blood is pumped through them by the heart.

As Sportspeople, we will focus on gymnastics, developing strength, flexibility, balance, and coordination. We will learn and practice key movements, such as rolls, jumps, and balances, working towards creating sequences that flow smoothly from one movement to the next. We will also emphasise teamwork, as students will collaborate to build group routines that showcase their skills.

As Computer Scientists, we will explore **Scratch**, a programming platform, to understand how **variables** work in coding. We will learn how to create, use, and change variables to store information. Using this knowledge, we will design and build our own games. Along the way, we will practice **debugging**, identifying and fixing errors in our code to ensure our games work as intended. This hands-on approach will help us develop problem-solving skills and creativity while learning the fundamentals of programming.

Home learning:

Homework: The CGP Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling books and the Math books homework will be given out every Thursday and are due back on the following Tuesday.

Reading: Children should aim to read for 10-20 minutes a day. We encourage you to ask questions about your child's reading to ensure they fully understand the text.

Times Tables: Please practise Times Table Rockstars little and often. Fluency in times tables is a crucial foundation in Maths and supports learning across the entire Maths curriculum.

ClassDojo

Class Dojo:

We love to see the work children and families have been doing at home.

Please do upload pictures via Class Dojo and we will make sure that these are celebrated in class and rewarded with team points or certificates.

Likewise, if children have any notable achievements or events outside of school (swimming medals, football tournaments etc), we love to hear about these too!