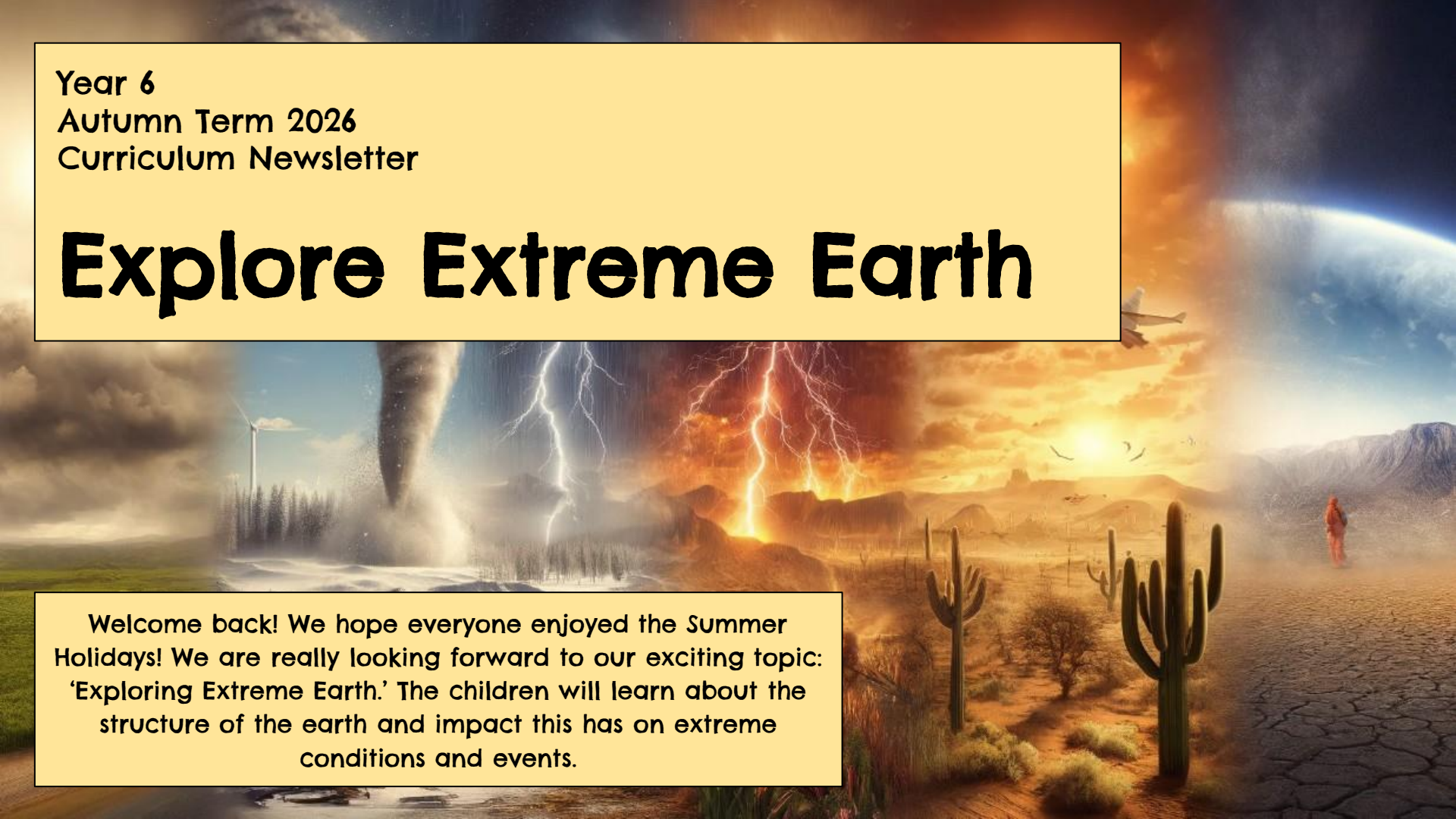


Year 6
Autumn Term 2026
Curriculum Newsletter

Explore Extreme Earth

Welcome back! We hope everyone enjoyed the Summer Holidays! We are really looking forward to our exciting topic: 'Exploring Extreme Earth.' The children will learn about the structure of the earth and impact this has on extreme conditions and events.



An Extreme World

Geography is the main subject driving this topic and we will delve deep into our *extreme world* throughout our geography lessons... but first, we will take some time to learn how maps are used to represent our world and will get to grips with how to read maps through orienteering. As we develop our map reading skills in geography, we will also be creating our own maps in English inspired by our first text 'The Land of Neverbelieve'. This fascinating book explores a mix of fiction and non-fiction and will allow us to explore scientific writing and use our imaginations to create our own wondrous creatures.

In science, we will be learning about evolution and inheritance. We will study Charles Darwin and the impact his work has had on natural sciences including classification and natural selection.

Extreme Earth in Action...

During the second part of our learning journey, we will be exploring the structure of the earth and the layers which make up our planet. Our research progresses through to understanding that tectonic plates make up the surface of our earth and that our continents were once all connected as a supercontinent called Pangaea over 299 million years ago.

We will also look more closely at the volatile nature of some areas of the world with a particular focus on the volcanic activity and earthquakes.

In English, the learning will be focused on the book 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. This tells the unfortunate story of Stanley Yelnats who discovers that holes and yellow spotted lizards aren't the only thing to be scared of at Camp Green Lake.

In Art, we will be taking an in-depth look at the American artist Georgia O'Keeffe and in particular, her paintings of nature and the mountains and hills that form her home state of Wisconsin. The outcome of this study will be a presentation of art pieces inspired by O'Keefe's works.

Take Home Tasks

You can either bring these projects into class to show your classmates or upload a photograph to the Google class stream.

DESIGN and MAKE - ART, DESIGN TECHNOLOGY AND MATHS

- Create a 3D model of the structure of the earth labelling key layers of the earth.
- Make a model of an erupting volcano using bicarbonate soda and vinegar - Film it erupting.
- Papier Mache a famous natural landmark e.g. Mount Fuji.
- Build a bridge from dried spaghetti and see how many books it can hold before breaking.
- Create your own image inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe. Use paint, felt tips, pastels etc.
- Look at images of volcanic eruptions and paint a piece of interpretive art. Could you create or perform a piece of music?
- Or an idea of your own...?

RESEARCH - HISTORY, SCIENCE AND ENGLISH

- Research the questions:
- What are the highest and lowest points on earth?
- What are the hottest and coldest points on earth?
- Once you have the answer to these questions, create a fact file about these places.
- Research how volcanoes are formed and why they erupt
- Look at how towns, cities and countries with active volcanoes minimise their potentially devastating impact.
- Research the question:
- Are tectonic plates the cause of natural disasters?
- Or an idea of your own...

Fortnightly Home Learning Tasks

Children will receive fortnightly homework, which will include maths, English, and reading. The homework will also include spellings, which the children may be tested on. The work will be set on Google Classroom and we expect, where possible, the children to complete the work and submit it using this technology. We encourage children to complete their homework independently in order to consolidate their learning in school.

In year 6 we encourage the children to read both independently and to an adult at home on a daily basis.

Take Home Tasks

A sheet of suggested take home tasks is included. Children can choose an activity from these to complete alongside their home learning.

During this term, please try to encourage your child to complete as many of the tasks as possible in an imaginative way. These tasks are designed to be family projects where all members of the family can get involved with bringing our current topic to life at home. We would suggest that you try to complete at least two of these tasks during the term.

You could also come up with ideas of your own.

The tasks can be completed/uploaded in the Google Classroom if you wish.

Thank you ever so much for your continued help and support with your child's learning.



School term dates 2026/27

	September 2026					October 2026					November 2026					December 2026					
Monday		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31
Friday	4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	
Saturday	5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	
Sunday	6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	

	January 2027					February 2027					March 2027					April 2027					
Monday		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22		1	8	14	22	29		5	12	19	26
Tuesday		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Wednesday		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Thursday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		4	11	18	25			1	8	15	22
Friday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		5	12	19	26			2	9	16	23
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		6	13	20	27			3	10	17	24
Sunday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		7	14	21	28			4	11	18	25

	May 2027						June 2027						July 2027						August 2027					
Monday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30			
Tuesday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31			
Wednesday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25				
Thursday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26				
Friday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27				
Saturday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28			
Sunday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29			

Key

Bank holidays (see details below)

School holidays

INSET day for most schools

(5 INSET days in total, chosen by individual schools)

First day of term

Last day of term

Bank holidays 2026/27

Christmas Day	Fri 25 December 2026
Boxing Day (substitute)	Mon 28 December 2026
New Year's Day	Fri 1 January 2027
Good Friday	Fri 26 March 2027
Easter Monday	Mon 29 March 2027
Early May Bank Holiday	Mon 3 May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	Mon 31 May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	Mon 30 August 2027

Number of days (total requirement 195)

Autumn 1 st half	39
Autumn 2 nd half	35
Spring 1 st half	30
Spring 2 nd half	24
Summer 1 st half	34
Summer 2 nd half	33
TOTAL	195
(includes 5 INSET days)	