



2nd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that your summer has been full of adventure, laughter and relaxation. Once again, we have a very exciting term ahead of us.

Class read: *When the Sky Falls* - Phil Earle and *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*

Our big question this term is **'How did the world wars affect gender roles?'**

English: We will start the year by using a short animation from the Literacy Shed called 'Beyond the Lines'. We will conduct in depth discussions about the animation and use it to inspire narrative, descriptive and recount writing. After studying the animation, we read the exhilarating historical fiction 'When the Sky Falls' by Phil Earle which will inspire us to write in role, describe historical events and create suspense in a narrative piece.

Maths: We will begin the year by consolidating and strengthening our understanding of number and place value before moving on to the four operations and fractions. The children will have daily arithmetic sessions and regular times table practice.

Science: In science, we will start by learning about Electricity, where we will be exploring and experimenting with circuits. We will investigate how different circuits work and how we can control the components within them. We will then move on to Light, where we will look at how light travels and how we see objects.

PE: This term, the class will have swimming on a Wednesday at Hornby and one PE lesson on a Friday. In our PE lessons, we will revisit skills we focused on last year and utilise them in game strategies, such as attacking and defending and positional awareness.

RE: We will be exploring Islam, Hindu Dharma, Christianity and non-religious worldviews through the question 'What values do people share?'. We will explore concepts such as peace, service, and the Golden Rule. We will also be developing our debating skills.

Geography: In geography, we will be focusing on the topic of 'Sustainability'. We will explore the world's energy sources and understand how we can use them responsibly. Using real life examples from places around the world, we will also look at how technology can be used to improve sustainability in the modern world.

History: This term, we will be learning about the World Wars. We will be exploring change and continuity and using the lens of 'rights' to try and answer the question - 'How did the world wars affect gender identity and roles?' We will start by exploring what life was like before 1914 and the origins of the First World War, before focusing on how the wars affected gender roles, the impact of the suffragette campaign, and how propaganda reflected societal changes.



French: We will start the term by learning transactional language to prepare Year 6 for their trip to France where they will practise their skills at dinner each evening and when visiting a French market. Following the France trip, we will be learning to say and understand the time in French and using this in the context of describing our daily routine. We will then prepare a presentation about our daily lives to share with our pen pals in Socx and compare their lives with ours when reading their responses.

Art: In art, we will be developing our drawing and sculpting skills. We will focus on the use of negative space, different lines and scaling in our 2D drawings. We will then build on this by using our 2D images to create 3D sculptures or pieces of work.

DT: In DT, we will be using our knowledge from our 'Electricity' science unit to design and create an electrical game for the Christmas Fair. We will test these games with real customers and take time to evaluate our successes.

Computing: We will start with the unit 'Communicating on the internet', where we will explore how data is transferred, identify how we communicate using technology, and evaluate methods of communication. We will then move on to our unit based around 'Webpage creation', where we will identify the structure of a webpage, consider copyright, and use hyperlinks within our own webpages.

Music: In our first topic, we will investigate the key musical features of Grime and use Charanga's YuStudio® Digital Audio Workstation to create our own Grime-inspired piece. We will experiment with beats, basslines, riffs, textures, and arrangement, developing our ideas into a structured composition that reflects the genre's energy and style. After half term, we will be planning, composing, and performing musical sketches inspired by the classic sea shanty "Roll Alabama". We will explore melodic and rhythmic patterns, experimenting with chords, musical snippets, and dynamic contrasts. Using Music Notepad and Yumu, we will develop our own 8-bar compositions, applying compositional decision-making and ensemble awareness.

PSHE: We will return to My Happy Mind where we will focus on our brains. We will explore how our brains work and how our emotional regulation is controlled by our brain.

PE

It is absolutely essential that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, including a suitable coat for outdoor PE lessons. They also need their swimming kits in school on a Wednesday.

Outdoor learning

We aim to take our learning outdoors as often as possible so it would be useful for your child to have a pair of wellies that can be kept in school at all times.

Snacks

Children can buy toast at breaktime for 20p a slice. They can also bring in fruit from home.



Homework

This term, we will be focusing on key skills in maths and English, both in class and for homework. We would be very grateful if you would support your child at home with the following:

Daily reading - All children should read a quality text of an appropriate level that they bring into school each day and take home each night, completing their reading record daily. We ask that everyone reads for a minimum of twenty minutes each day. Reading records will be checked daily and if not completed, children will be supported with their daily reading at the lunchtime reading club.

Weekly spellings - These will be set on Monday and tested each Friday. A spelling letter will be given out in the first week.

Times tables - These should be practised regularly at home; knowing these is crucial and the expectation of the national curriculum is that all children should know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. This means being able to recite times tables i.e. 0 times 5 is 0, 1 times 5 is 5, 2 times 5 is 10 etc. and knowing related division facts i.e. 0 divided by 5 is 0, 5 divided by 5 is 1, 10 divided by 5 is 2 etc. We will test times tables on a Friday in school.

Maths and Reading - The children will be set a page of short questions from each book to complete for homework. This will be set on a Tuesday and due in by Friday.

If you would like to speak to me about anything at all, please do not hesitate to email contact@caton.lancs.sch.uk or in person at the beginning or end of the school day.

Best wishes,

Mrs Cain