



Year 6 Welcome Letter - September 2026



General Information

A very warm welcome back to school to Year Six – Falcon Class. I hope you have all had a lovely summer and are feeling excited for the new school year. I am looking forward to continuing working with you all this academic year, helping your child to learn through meaningful, creative and practical experiences. Supporting us on this learning journey are Mrs Manship, our Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) and Miss Bayley our Learning Support Assistant (LSA).

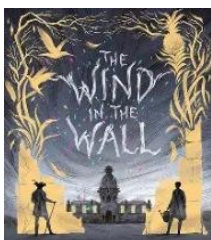


We are so happy to be welcoming back Miss Baber. You may remember that she did a placement here last academic year on a Wednesday. Now, she is returning for her teaching placement and will be with us from Monday 21st September until Thursday 28th January.

Your support with your child's learning and development is invaluable and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance. As a partnership (home and school), we will be able to help your child reach their full potential and support them to invest in their own learning. Your child, their learning and wellbeing are of upmost importance. I care about helping them grow as individuals, as a team, as well as their academic progress. This helps them to develop their independence and tackle new challenges with confidence. During this year, we will work on greater independence, as this helps your child transition to secondary more successfully. There will be times where children will pass on messages, be responsible for fitting in their home learning, decide how they will share their learning etc. It is important that children have these opportunities built in steadily.

Our Learning This Term

Falcon Projects: There are some fascinating projects for Falcons throughout the year. Please see the [long-term plan](#) on the website for an overview of the whole year. We are starting with a focus on rainforests. This allows the children to build upon their knowledge of South America from last year (the Amazon) and learn more about the importance of these ecosystems for our planet.



In English, we have started our work on the theme 'Fate vs. free will.' The use of 'Wind in the Wall' by Sally Gardner is a great gothic story to start us off. We will then later this term continue with this theme using an adventure and mystery story, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell.

In Maths, we have started the term revisiting and further developing our place value skills. This includes not only reading, writing and comparing numbers, but also rounding, working with negative numbers and showing our understanding of Roman Numerals. Improving how children see themselves as a mathematician is really important to me and this starts with developing their confidence (both in themselves and with facing challenges).

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Trips and Events

When children reminisce on their time in school, trips and residentials are always in the top five. With this in mind, we have exciting opportunities planned in.

We the Curious



We are very excited to offer a brilliant whole day workshop for Falcons on **Thursday 1st October**. This is a fantastic and interactive opportunity, where children will be able to explore scientific thinking, take part in experiments, ask and answer questions, and apply a range of skills to develop their STEM thinking. Information on this experience has already been sent out, and a reminder will be shared nearer the time.



Reading Patron Event

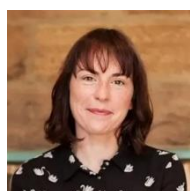
I have been able to arrange a brilliant opportunity for Year 4, 5 and 6 on **Tuesday 13th October**. Wells Literature Festival are going to fund us to have a reading patron. The author is Joffre White who is well known to the people who run the Wells Literature Festival. He has attended several times in the past. On meeting him before the summer holiday, I could tell he will be really inspirational for the children and I think they will love his energy.



Joffre will be in a few times throughout the year to do work with the children. His first visit will be on Tuesday 13th October. Joffre will be in all day and will kick start this year long piece of work with his Reading Motivator Show followed by a workshop. He will also be available after school for children and parents to meet, buy his books if you wish to and sign them. I will share more information nearer the time.



Wells Literature Festival



On **Thursday 22nd October**, we will be travelling to Cedar Halls in Wells for the annual Wells Literature Festival. This funded experience is provided for the children by the wonderful education team. This year, the Year 6 children will listen to and meet Helen Rutter. She is an author of a number of books including the highly acclaimed 'The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh.' She is passionate about reading and writing for pleasure, and before becoming a published author worked as an



actor and was also a stand up comedian. At this event, the children have the opportunity to purchase her books at a heavily discounted rate and she will also sign one of them. More information and the ability to sign your child up for this free trip will be shared nearer the time.

London Residential



As you will know, we are arranging a residential trip to London in June. This will be a fantastic opportunity to build upon their existing experience of our capital city. The children will develop their independence as well as be immersed in a range of cultural experiences. Thank you to so many of you for signing up for this. The deposit (£50) is due through Arbor by **Friday 2nd October**. Please come and speak to me if you have any further questions. More information about a final price, activities and payment schedule will follow.

Year 6 Sleepover



As a way to celebrate Year 6 and the incredible journey they will have gone on since starting at the school, we end the year with a sleepover. The children stay the night for an evening of activities and games. This is followed by sleeping over in the classroom or school hall. More information will be shared nearer the time. Although this experience is part funded by school and the PTA, we require a contribution of £10 per child from parents in order to provide a wider range of activities and food.

Key Information

Uniform: As role models for younger children, it is important that Falcons set a good example. Please ensure that your child is wearing the appropriate clothing and footwear. It was shared before the end of last year that girls can wear shorts but these need to be tailored (not sports shorts or cycling shorts). It is also important that children have coats in daily, the weather is changeable, and I would like to get the children outside as much as possible for their learning as well as their play. It would be a shame if they couldn't join us.

For those children who have their ears pierced, it should be **studs**, which will need to be removed or covered with tape during PE. Other than a watch or medic alert bracelet, there should be **no other jewellery / bands / accessories**. Any child with longer hair needs to have their hair tied back; this is for safety. In addition to our standard school uniform, you may wish to provide your child with an oversized shirt to use as an art apron. Please see the school website for a reminder on our uniform.



PE: We will continue to have children come into school in their PE kits on the days of their PE. For Autumn, these sessions will take place on a **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Due to the time of year, children may wish to wear black leggings / joggers and a plain black jumper / hoodie.



Meetings: We think it is important that there are strong communication links between us. Class Dojo, emails and messages through the School Office have been brilliant in helping us maintain those links. Please do appreciate that responses can't be instant. Although we will be able to see each other on the playground at the end of the school day, our focus will be on making sure that children are released safely, as well as supporting children with this transition period. If you need to discuss any issues, concerns or general queries, then I am happy to arrange a phone call or meeting. **If you are sharing information about attendance/appointments or something for that same day, please contact the School Office.** Thank you for your understanding and I look forward to working with you throughout the year.



Behaviour expectations: Already this term, we have worked on ClassDojo remembering and re-establishing our school rules (Ready, Respectful and Safe) and school values (Belief, Aspiration and Advocacy). Children will continue to earn Class Dojo points. This may be in pieces of work they produce; answers they give and/or how they conduct themselves around the school. This year, classes are giving weekly, individual awards, recognising efforts, attitudes and development. We will also continue to have whole class rewards for reaching certain milestones with their points.



Home Learning

It is important that children's learning habits get off to a good start. In school, we will establish and maintain a routine to meet all children's needs and promote curiosity, engagement and success. Upper Key Stage 2 is an important stage in your child's primary journey and it is essential that children complete the home learning set. We understand that children have other commitments as well as a need to have time to switch off, which is why we continually review our home learning systems. Although home learning may not be the activity your child would choose to do, it is important that children maintain regular practise of certain skills and that they are prepared for the increase in home learning that happens at secondary school. Home Learning is your child's responsibility, and this is one way that they can develop their independence. Of course, it is great for parents to be involved and support children with their work, but nothing will be set that is not accessible independently for your child. If they do struggle, then letting me know sooner, will allow me to support. It is expected that children will do their home learning and therefore if they do not, they will do this at a break or lunchtime. Below is an overview of the expectations. This will be set every Wednesday and collected/marked on a Tuesday.

Read and Respond (weekly)	Reading is a vital skill and we encourage children to read and respond to their reading at least 4 times a week . It will help your child's skills to continue to develop if they could do as many of the responses as possible and vary the type they use. They could summarise what they have read, tell me about a character, predict what might happen next, share a new word and its meaning etc. They do not need to write loads. I would prefer they wrote less but worked on their accuracy of sentences and spelling.
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Spelling (weekly)	One spelling list will be set each week . Children are expected to complete 6 games . This is set so that you can see how many games are completed. Children can go over the 6 games if they would like to.
Times Tables (weekly)	Children will be expected to complete 15 minutes on Times Tables Rockstars a week . This is set so that you can see how many minutes out of the 15 have been completed. Again, children can go over the 15 if they wish. This is an essential skill to maintain and although in Year 4 they may have passed the multiplication check, we often see in Year 6 children's tables knowledge reduces because they haven't kept up the practise. I will be working with the children on their times tables as well and for some working on them not being as anxious with the timed element.
Additional Tasks (fortnightly)	Falcons will have one additional task set fortnight (every two weeks). This will be linked to the learning happening in class or revision that may be needed at certain times of the year. The use of a range of tasks for children to select from proved popular last year and therefore we will use this again. This allows children to see all the additional tasks available and select the ones that most interest them.

Welcome Chat

This year, I have tried to put as much information as possible for the term in this letter. I will share a shorter letter each term with an overview of the upcoming learning and events. If you would like to have a chat about Year 6 and upcoming events or have any questions, I will be holding an informal information session (welcome chat) on **Tuesday 22nd September** after school.

I am looking forward to working with you throughout the year.

Kind regards,

Claire Newman

An example of Autumn Term's timetable:

Year 6 Falcons

	8.45 – 9.35am	9.40 – 10.45am		11 – 12pm		1 – 1.30pm	1.30 – 3pm	3 – 3.25pm
Mon	MTask: Observation Draw W-Sch Worship	9.40-10.45am English HW, Dictation and Writing		11-12pm Maths Mrs Manship supporting		1-1.30pm Editing / R4P Mrs Manship supporting	1.30-2pm Spelling Mrs Manship supporting 2 – 3pm Geography Mrs Manship supporting	Book: The Explorer Mrs Manship supporting
Tues	MTask: Word of the Week Reading	9.35-10.45am English HW, Dictation and Writing		11-12pm Maths Mrs Manship supporting		1-1.30pm Spelling Mrs Manship supporting	1.30– 2.30pm RE Mrs Manship supporting 2.30– 2.55pm Book: The Explorer	2.55– 3.15pm KS Worship Mrs Manship supporting
Wed	MTask: Arithmetic Challenge W-Sch Worship Mrs Manship supporting	9.40-10.45am English HW, Dictation and Writing Mrs Manship supporting		11-12pm Maths		1-2.10pm RM PE: Dance (possibly in the classroom)	2.10-2.50pm RM French Miss Bayley supporting	2.50-3.25pm RM Reading (character analysis) Miss Bayley supporting
Thurs	8.45-9.30am TTRS grp Reading Mrs Manship supporting	9.30-10.45am Maths Mrs Manship supporting		11-12pm English		1-1.45pm Spelling HW, Dictation & Spelling Miss Bayley supporting	2-3pm Science Miss Bayley supporting	Book: The Explorer Miss Bayley supporting
Fri	8.45-9.15am MTask: Number of the Day	9.15-10.15am PE: Yoga	10.15-10.45am SPaG & Hwriting	11-12pm Maths		1-1.45pm PSHE	1.45-2.45pm Art	Singing

RM – Mrs Manship covering Mrs Newman's PPA time.