

Curriculum Overview
Dragonflies (Year 6) Spring Term 2026

Interconnected Question: How to Rule a Dynasty: What did the rulers of the Shang Dynasty do?

Key Texts	Anticipated Writing Outcomes
<p>In guided reading we will be reading the novel 'The Kite Rider' by Geraldine McCaughrean.</p> <p>The Firework Maker's Daughter – Philip Pullman</p> <p>Other possible reading suggestions:</p> <p><i>An Adventure in the Ancient Shang Dynasty</i> by Jo Ellen Hemmings</p> <p>Non-fiction:</p> <p><i>Uncover History: Shang Dynasty</i> by Geoff Barker</p>	<p><u>Non chorological – reports. Dragons</u></p> <p>Thinking about the structure and features of reports at year 6 and organising paragraphs using sentence signposts and generalising vocabulary</p> <p><u>Narrative Story – set in Shang Dynasty</u></p> <p>Written from 3rd person starting at the problem in the and using a flashback to resolve</p> <p>Using twists to hook the reader and posing questions to the story opening</p>
History	Geography
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To construct a chronological timeline identifying the main periods of Ancient Chinese history. • To investigate different artefacts from the Shang capital of Anyang and infer what they tell us about life in the past. • To understand the hierarchical nature of society during the Shang Dynasty (King, nobles, craftspeople, farmers, slaves). • To investigate the beliefs surrounding Shang Di (The Supreme God) and ancestor worship. • To develop an understanding of who Lady Fu Hao was and why she was unusual in Shang society. • To investigate the historical context and purpose of the Great Wall of China and the Terracotta Army, linking them to later dynasties (Qin Dynasty). <p>Other areas of study:</p> <p>The Great Wall of China</p> <p>Terracotta Army</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to use lines of latitude and longitude to accurately locate China and the key area of the Shang Dynasty on a world map. • To label a modern-day map of China to illustrate the geographical extent of the Shang Dynasty's rule and identify key historical settlements. • To investigate and describe the strategic importance of the Yellow River area and explain how the development of irrigation systems supported the rise of the Shang civilization. • To explain the reasons why ancient civilisations, such as the Shang, typically established settlements around major rivers. • To analyse and compare the historical population of the Shang era with present-day populations, using data from the Worldometers population clock. • To compare and contrast the location of the ancient Shang capital with China's modern-day capital city (Beijing), considering geographical and historical factors.

Art

Spring 1 - Focusing on the detailed, precious art forms of jade carving and exploring visual art forms like painting/calligraphy.

Chinese Calligraphy and Painting: Explore how Chinese writing developed into an important art form, emphasizing the use of brushstrokes.

Project: Practise basic Chinese characters and learn how to hold a brush to create different strokes. Students can write their names or simple words in the Chinese style.

Spring 2 - Understanding the historical context and the primary materials used by the Shang people: bronze and oracle bones.

Oracle Bones and Early Writing: Investigate the first Chinese writing system found on oracle bones (tortoise shells and animal scapulae) used for divination.

Project: Children make their own "oracle bones" from clay.

Technique: They use a provided key of Shang ideograms to carve questions or messages onto their "bone".

Discrete Subjects

Maths	
<p>Four Operations - Consolidation</p> <p>Fractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify equivalent fractions • Compare and order fractions • Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers • Multiply and divide fractions by both fractions and integers • Calculate fractions of amounts <p>Converting Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convert metric measures • Calculate using miles and kilometres <p>Ratio</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratio and fractions • Use scaled drawings • Solve ratio and proportion problems <p>Decimals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round, add and subtract decimals • Multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000 	
Religious Education	Relationships, Sex and Health Education
<p>How does a Muslim show their submission and obedience to Allah?</p> <p>The Emmanuel Project</p> <p>What is the great significance of the Eucharist for Christians?</p> <p>The Emmanuel Project</p>	<p>Dreams and goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When I grow up • Investigate jobs and careers • My dream job • How can we support each other? • <p>Healthy me - Research the following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking, Alcohol, Emergency aid, Body image, My relationship with food, Healthy me <p>Our Locality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying safe around dogs and road safety
Physical Education	Computing
<p>Basketball</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To dribble with control • To choose when to pass or when to dribble • To develop shooting techniques <p>Dance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To copy and repeat a dance • To use dynamic changes as a stimulus • To learn and perform a Bhangra style dance <p>Outdoor Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop teamwork skills • Run at speed over distances • Develop planning and problem-solving skills <p>NFL Flag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop team planning • Invasion game skills 	<p>Creating Media - Web page creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review an existing website and consider its structure • Plan the features of a web page • Consider the ownership and use of images (copyright) • Recognise the need to preview pages • Outline the need for a navigation path • Recognise the implications of linking to content owned by other people <p>Data and Information - Spreadsheets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify questions which can be answered using data

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throwing and catching drills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that objects can be described using data • Explain that formulas can be used to produce calculated data • Apply formulas to data, including duplicating • Create a spreadsheet to plan an event
Modern Foreign Languages	Science
<p>Consolidate Previous Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn how to use the negative in Spanish • Describe what we have and do not have in our pencil case. • Respond to simple classroom commands • Writing the date <p>New Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the names and indefinite articles for a selection of animals • Develop a range of skills such as greetings, number, colour and questions and answers to decode a short text 	<p>Evolution and Inheritance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify living things along with their habitats and adaptive traits • Use fossil records and describe similarities and differences compared to their living relatives regarding evolution • Make comparisons between a modern-day human and fossil skeletons of those believed to be ancestors in human evolution <p>Earth and Space Pupils</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object • identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces; recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
Music	
<p>Spring 1: Tchaikovsky - Waltz of the Flowers - composing using triads, chord structure and sequence. Elements: rhythm, pulse, tempo, dynamics, pitch, melody, timbre, beat, structure, harmony</p> <p>Spring 2: Florence Price Symphony No 1 in E minor (Juba Dance) BBC Ten Pieces Trailblazers Elements: rhythm, pulse, tempo, dynamics, pitch, melody, timbre, structure, beat</p>	