

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>Non chronological – reports. Dragons</p> <p>Thinking about the structure and features of reports at year 6 and organising paragraphs using sentence signposts and generalising vocabulary</p> <p>Narrative Story – set in Shang Dynasty</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>
<p>History</p> <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 Terracotta Army</p>	<p>Geography</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

Four Operations - Consolidation

Fractions

- 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

Converting Units

- Convert metric measures
- Calculate using miles and kilometres

Ratio

- Ratio and fractions
- Use scaled drawings
- Solve ratio and proportion problems

Decimals

- Round, add and subtract decimals
- Multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000

Religious Education

How does a Muslim show their submission and obedience to Allah?

The Emmanuel Project

What is the great significance of the Eucharist for Christians?

The Emmanuel Project

Relationships, Sex and Health Education

Dreams and goals

- When I grow up
- Investigate jobs and careers
- My dream job
- How can we support each other?
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Healthy me - Research the following -

- Smoking, Alcohol, Emergency aid, Body image, My relationship with food, Healthy me

Our Locality

- Staying safe around dogs and road safety

Physical Education

Basketball

- To dribble with control
- To choose when to pass or when to dribble
- To develop shooting techniques

Dance

- To copy and repeat a dance
- To use dynamic changes as a stimulus
- To learn and perform a Bhangra style dance

Outdoor Activities

- Develop teamwork skills
- Run at speed over distances
- Develop planning and problem-solving skills

NFL Flag

- Develop team planning
- Invasion game skills

Computing

Creating Media - Web page creation

- 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

Data and Information - Spreadsheets

- 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
Consolidate Previous Learning <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 New Learning <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 	Evolution and Inheritance <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 Earth and Space Pupils <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	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 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