

# Starfish



**Penclawdd Primary School : Summer Term 2026**

## Welcome Back, Year 6!

Welcome back, Year 6! We hope you all had a fantastic Easter break and enjoyed some time to relax and have fun. It has been wonderful to see you all back in school, full of energy and ready to learn. This is a very special term for you — your final one in primary school! We have lots of exciting activities, challenges, and opportunities ahead, and we can't wait to see you shine and make the most of every moment. We're especially excited to begin our new topic, "Scream if you want to go faster!" where we'll be learning all about forces through the thrilling world of rollercoasters and theme parks — it's going to be an exciting ride! Let's make this a brilliant final term together! 🏰

### Topic Overview

#### Scream if you want to go faster!

This term, we will be diving into the thrilling world of forces through our exciting topic, "Scream if you want to go faster!" From gravity and friction to air resistance and motion, we will explore how forces work in the real world of rollercoasters and theme parks. We'll take a journey across the globe to discover some of the most incredible theme parks ever created, investigating record-breaking rides, incredible speeds, and fascinating statistics. As the term progresses, the children will use their knowledge and creativity to design and build their very own theme park, applying everything they have learned. This hands-on project will challenge them to think like engineers and designers while working collaboratively. It promises to be a term full of excitement, innovation, and discovery! 🏰

#### **Along the way, we will be asking big questions like:**

- How do forces make things move, stop, or change direction?
- What makes a rollercoaster exciting — speed, height, or something else?
- How do engineers use forces to design safe and thrilling rides?
- What can we learn from the world's most famous theme parks and their record-breaking rides?
- How can we use our understanding of forces to create our own amazing theme park?
- If you could design the ultimate ride, what would it look like and why? 🏰



### Engage

To hook Team Starfish into our new topic, we are launching an experience full of thrills and excitement! We will begin with a visit to Swansea University's Immersive Suite, where the children can experience world-famous rollercoasters while keeping their feet safely on the ground. This will be followed by a trip to Mumbles to take a ride on the Big Wheel and see real-life forces in action. Back in school, we will spend a day fully immersed in the sights, sounds, and smells of a theme park, enjoying classic treats like corn dogs, candy floss, and popcorn. The children will also have the chance to capture their own rollercoaster action shots using a green screen, bringing the excitement to life. These hands-on experiences will provide a thrilling start to our exploration of forces and the world of theme parks! 🏰

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## Literacy

This term in Year 6, our literacy learning will be full of creativity, adventure, and inspiration!



In the first half of the term, Starfish will be:

- developing their information writing skills, learning how to present facts clearly, logically, and engagingly for a range of audiences
- focusing on how to structure non-fiction writing effectively, including headings, subheadings, paragraphs, and formal language
- continuing to develop their reading comprehension, SPaG skills, and handwriting, so they can express their thoughts clearly and confidently

In the second half of the term, Starfish will be exploring the film Wonder Park. 📺 ✨

This imaginative and visually rich story will spark creativity and encourage discussion, inference, and analytical thinking. The children will explore themes, character development, and storytelling techniques used in film, while also using the movie as inspiration for their own creative writing. This will be a chance to connect literacy skills to a visual text in an exciting and engaging way.

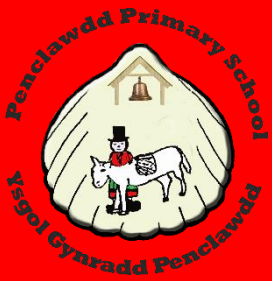
## Welsh and French

In Welsh, Starfish will continue to have a daily slot ddrilio session practising patterns and phrases, building speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, and creating a one-page profile about themselves. In French, pupils will learn basic greetings, introductions, numbers, colours, and where they live, helping them gain confidence in speaking and listening while having fun with language.



**Our April Right of the Month is:**  
Article 24 : The Right To Food, Water and Medical Care.

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## Maths

This term in Starfish, we will be diving into lots of exciting maths, including:

**Decimals:** We will be building confidence in ordering, comparing, and carrying out calculations involving decimals.

**Decimals, Fractions, and Percentages:** We will explore the important connections and conversions between these three number forms.

**Shape and Geometry:** We will be investigating angles, including finding missing angles in shapes and on straight lines, as well as exploring 3D shapes and their nets, linking 2D and 3D geometry.

**Converting Units:** We will be learning how to convert between different units of measurement, building accuracy and confidence in real-life contexts.

**Ratio and Algebra:** We will be introducing ratio and simple algebra, developing problem-solving skills and learning how to represent unknown values and relationships.

To make maths come alive, we'll be:

- ✓ Taking part in outdoor maths challenges
- ✓ Trying a range of mental maths activities
- ✓ Tackling reasoning and problem-solving challenges



We'll also be growing our mathematical vocabulary so we can explain our thinking like true maths detectives!

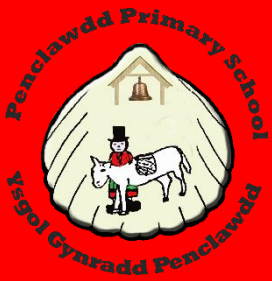
## Science and Technology

In Science, Starfish will be exploring forces, including pushes, pulls, friction, air resistance and gravity, and how these affect movement in everyday life. We will apply our learning to real-world contexts such as theme park rides and rollercoasters, considering how forces like centripetal and centrifugal force help rides move safely and create exciting twists, turns, and drops.

In Design and Technology (D&T), we will take on an exciting shared theme park project! 🏗️ Children will design, make, and evaluate their own theme park ride, focusing on structure, stability, and creating an exciting experience that is both fun and safe.

In ICT, we will become marketing experts! 🎬 Pupils will create and edit a persuasive advert (film) to promote our theme park. They will use a range of digital tools and media skills to design an engaging advertisement that encourages visitors to come and experience the rides and attractions we have created.

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## Humanities

In our Humanities, Starfish will explore theme parks and rollercoasters around the world 🏰, investigating how geography influences where these attractions are built and how they operate. Pupils will locate major theme park destinations across Europe, the USA, and Asia, using map skills to identify patterns in global distribution.

We will explore how physical geography such as climate, land use, and available space affects the design and development of theme parks, and how these factors influence the types of rides and experiences that can be created. Pupils will also investigate the environmental impact of theme parks, considering issues such as land use, energy consumption, waste, transport and effects on local habitats. They will begin to think critically about how theme parks can be designed more sustainably in the future.

This learning will be our inspiration, as pupils use their geographical understanding to help design and plan their own mini theme park with original rides, considering both creativity and real-world environmental responsibility.

## RVE

This term, Year 6 are embarking on a powerful inquiry: “How do our worldviews shape who we are and how we act?” 🌍

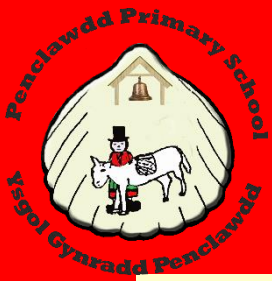
We will explore how beliefs and values influence actions, looking at inspirational figures such as Greta Thunberg, Malala Yousafzai, and Marcus Rashford, and how their worldviews have driven them to create change.

We will also investigate the diverse worldviews within Penclawdd and Swansea, considering how different beliefs and perspectives shape identity and community life. Finally, we will reflect on how worldviews can influence everyday choices, including how we express ourselves and what this communicates about who we are.

Our aim is to help pupils become respectful, reflective citizens who value diversity and understand how beliefs and values shape the world around them.



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## Expressive Arts

In our Expressive Arts sessions, Year 6 will explore the exciting theme “Scream if you want to go faster!”, using the world of theme parks and rollercoasters as inspiration 🎢. Through dance, pupils will choreograph dynamic movement sequences that represent the forces at work on a rollercoaster, including climbs, drops, loops, and sharp turns. They will use changes in speed, level, and direction to show acceleration, deceleration, and centripetal force, bringing scientific ideas to life through physical expression. Pupils will develop creativity, coordination, and teamwork as they design and perform routines that capture the thrill, energy, and excitement of a rollercoaster ride.



## Health and Well-Being

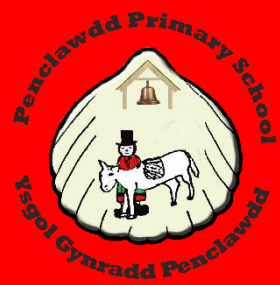
In our Health and Well-being sessions, pupils will develop their skills and confidence through a focus on athletics, rounders, and cricket. These activities will support teamwork, coordination, and stamina, while encouraging positive participation and healthy competition. We will also explore well-being through a theme park and rollercoaster-inspired learning journey, helping pupils understand how physical activity and emotions can rise and fall like a rollercoaster, and how we can build resilience and manage feelings in positive ways. On 25th June, we will take part in RSE Day, focusing on the theme “It begins with me.” Pupils will reflect on how their choices and actions can positively impact themselves and others, exploring respect, kindness, responsibility, and healthy relationships.

The fruit trolley is fully stocked and ready for customers — **30p per day**.

### Healthy School Reminder 💧

As part of our commitment to being a healthy school, we kindly ask that children **only bring water** to drink during the school day. This helps promote good habits, supports concentration, and encourages healthy choices





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### Reminders

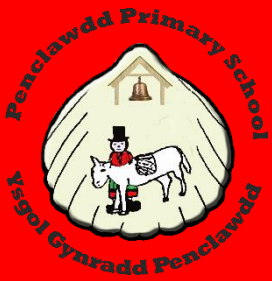
| Day             | Activity      | Information  |
|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Thursday        | PE            | Outdoor PE kit needed  |
| PPA – Mr Culpin | Forest School | Alternating Thursdays. Please bring wellies and a coat                                       |
| Friday          | PE            | Outdoor kit required   |
|                 | Library       | Children will have the opportunity to visit the school library and change their book weekly. |

**NB – Friday PE will be taking place on Tuesday for this half term as he have managed to secure a place on the Ospreys programme. We will revert back after half term.**

### Diary Dates

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| April | 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Earth Day – More details to follow<br>29 <sup>th</sup> – Art exhibition – 3.20pm – 6pm  |
| May   | Local and Community History Month<br>5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> – Cycle Proficiency<br>11 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> – World Mental Health Week<br>14 <sup>th</sup> – Boy at the Back of the Class – New Theatre, Cardiff |
| June  | Pride Month<br>5 <sup>th</sup> – Sports Day – See upcoming whole school newsletter for times<br>25 <sup>th</sup> – RSE Day – More details to follow  |
| July  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Leavers Day<br>6 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> – Transition at Gowerton Comp<br>15 <sup>th</sup> – 9.30am – Leavers assembly   |





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### HOME LEARNING

Literacy, Maths, Topic and Reading Spine– please find on our online class page

<https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=163&type=pdf>

### How can you support at home

#### Spelling

Want to help your child become a spelling superstar? ☆✎ Click the link to visit our website and check out our 56 Spelling Menu, full of fun and creative ideas to practise spelling at home!

<https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/cwricwlwm-curriculum/our-pps-curriculum-summary/aole-languages-literacy-and-communication/spelling-and-phonics-home-learning>

#### Reading Books

Encouraging your child to read at home regularly helps build confidence, comprehension, and a love of stories 📖🌟. You can explore some great reads by clicking this link to access our Reading Spine, full of exciting books for all interests. Don't forget — children should bring their reading books to school every day so they can enjoy reading in class and at home!

[https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/\\_site/data/files/users/curriculum/0A1E980194124CB951C86194C3233BA5.pdf](https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/_site/data/files/users/curriculum/0A1E980194124CB951C86194C3233BA5.pdf)

#### Times Tables

Regular practice of times tables helps children build confidence and speed in maths 🧠✖️÷️. Your child can practise at home by **accessing TT Blast** through their **HWB account**, making learning times tables fun and interactive. Daily practice, even for just a few minutes, really makes a difference!

### SeeSaw

Updates—including important information, photographs, and highlights of classroom activities—will be shared via Seesaw. Please note that during teaching hours, I may not be able to respond to messages immediately. If your message is urgent, kindly contact the school office directly.

### Be On Time!

Please ensure your child arrives promptly for school each day. Lessons begin at 8:50am, and a calm, punctual start helps children settle quickly and get the most from their learning.

### Attendance

Please report your child's absence via this form – [click here](#)

