



Term 3, 2025

Year 6 Learning Overview



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 3. We are halfway through the year already and it certainly feels like the months are racing past. We hope you and your family have had a restful holiday and are ready for the term ahead. Term 3 at Southwell School is always a particularly busy and exciting one as the school prepares to showcase itself with the Opera. This year's show Shrek is shaping to be a fantastic show.

Each week the School has a theme that focuses on developing our character and our competencies. We begin with a message in Chapel on Monday and throughout the week we can use the school diary as a focal point for further discussion. We wrap up the theme on Friday at Assembly with students sharing their thoughts and we will often display examples of great role models.

The themes for this coming Term are:

Week 1 **Being a Team Player**

Week 2 **Being Courteous**

Week 3 **Being Encouraging**

Week 4 **Being Optimistic**

Week 5 **Being Purposeful**

Week 6 **Being Reflective**

Week 7 **Being Tolerant**

Week 8 **Being Reliable**

Week 9 **Thinking Positively**

In Year 6 we have an exciting central idea for Term 3. "Artefacts are windows into past societies, revealing the innovations and values that shape human existence." We are calling this Time Detectives. Students will be exploring the following lines of inquiry:

How artefacts provide evidence of past societies and their way of life.

(Perspective)

The ways in which artefacts demonstrate significant change or shifts in practices, methods and tools/technology (Change)

The importance of preserving the past for future generations (Responsibility)

The students will use creativity to express a matter, idea, or message which is important to them. Students will then create a museum feature or artifact to demonstrate their learning and understanding.



School Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for the Term 2 School Calendar. Please note this is updated regularly.

Week Ahead

It is important that you look out for The Week Ahead in your inbox every Friday and read it carefully, as it contains important information about what is happening when.

Learning Conferences - Week 3, Term 3

The purpose of this Learning Conference is for your child to share their learning and goals with you. You may also wish to review your child's report. With this in mind, please bring your child's report with you. Further details regarding booking a learning conference will be emailed shortly.

Please note:

- There will be no after school sport practices during this week.
- All Year 3-8 children attend their conferences.
- Conferences are 10 minutes. If you would like to spend some time with your child's teacher without your child present, please mention this to the teacher at the beginning of the interview.
- Friday bookings are for Boarding families only.



Maths and Specialist Learning Conferences - Week 6, Term 3

These conferences take place in Week 6 with Specialist and Maths Teachers in the Performing Arts Centre. These meetings are a brief 5 minute opportunity to have a catch-up regarding your child's learning. If you feel you will need more than 5 minutes, please contact your child's teacher by email to arrange an alternative time.

ICAS Competitions

Southwell students in Year 4-8 have the opportunity to participate in the 2025 ICAS Competitions. Information and registration details for ICAS were emailed out mid last term. Registrations close on the 28th July. For those that register, ICAS competitions are scheduled to take place Weeks 5-7, Term 3.



House Chapel Service

All Houses will be attending Chapel on Sunday, 20 July.

- 4.00pm - Canterbury/Lincoln/Durham (Boys' and Girls' Choir)
- 5.15pm - Winchester/Salisbury/York (Boys' and Girls' Choir)

If you are unable to attend on the day, please let the Leader of your child's House know closer to the time.

Opera - Shrek

Term 3 is an exciting time for many of our students who are involved in the Opera. This is an amazing event and takes great commitment and focus. Students need to prioritise their well being during this time. We strongly recommend that they pay particular attention to eating well, sleeping well and exercising well. We also recommend to our Year 6's that they talk to their teachers about how to balance their commitments, if they need support.

Learning in Year 6

Writing - Year 6 Teachers

In Writing we will continue to use different stimuli to encourage and inspire our writing and work on individual goals.

We are looking at the structure and features of different types of writing that support our Big Idea of 'Time Detectives' in Term 3 such as Information Reports, Explanations, and Recounts of events.



Reading - Year 6 Teachers

In Reading we are continuing to look at reading for enjoyment, finding books that are a good fit and exploring a range of different genres. In teaching sessions the focus is on asking questions, activating prior knowledge, making connections and inferencing, while understanding the purpose of the text.

Mathematics - Year 6 Teachers, Mr Pickering

In Mathematics students are looking at the strands of Measurement, Geometry, Statistics, and Algebra. Emphasis is placed on problem solving in real word application. Mathletics will continue to be used to consolidate class learning.

Science – Mrs. Donald

This term in Science, our students will embark on an exciting journey into the world of rocks! We'll be exploring the three main types of rocks – igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic – learning how each is formed and what makes them unique. A key focus will be understanding the fascinating rock cycle, a continuous process that transforms rocks over millions of years. We'll also connect our learning to New Zealand's incredible geological landscape, discovering how our unique environment has shaped the rocks around us through hands-on activities and investigations.

Technology – Miss McMaster

In Food Technology this term, the Year 6 students will continue to follow recipes, learning basic food preparation and cooking skills. At the end of term the students will prepare for a

Masterchef type challenge where they will adapt recipes for a group competition. In alternate weeks, we will use our lesson time to plan for the next cooking session, add detail to our recipe books and make connections to the central idea of how artefacts are windows into the past by exploring the food eaten and preserved by Ancient Civilisations.



Christian Education – Reverend Pickering

In class this term, students will be examining Jesus' miracles, understood as divine "artefacts," revealing the values, power, and transformative impact of God's

Kingdom, offering timeless insights for our own lives. The class will continue to participate in an opening picture reflection and devotional, showing the importance of routine and reflection in the midst of daily life.

Te Reo – Whaea Whetu

This term, tamariki will explore the language through waiata, chants and stories of Waikato history including local landmarks and spaces. Aakonga will get creative and design and make a Maaori themed taonga or artifact as part of their learning.

Languages - Mrs Grant

축하해요! (Chukhahaeyo!) Celebrate! As curators, students will explore Korean traditions by examining everyday objects and special artefacts. Inspired by the Founders Room collection, they will consider how items hold meaning and reflect identity, past and present. Students will build vocabulary, practise Korean greetings and key phrases, and reflect on how cultures are expressed through language and objects. In Week 5, we will celebrate Languages Week, where students will showcase their learning and strengthen cultural connections within our school community.

Music – Mrs McIntyre

Students will complete a unit on Bucket Drumming. They will recap the basic rhythms of ta, ti-ti, za, tika-tika from year 4 and 5 and learn some more complex rhythms also (ti-tika, tika-ti, triplet, ti rest). Students will perform these rhythms through the use of popular songs and at the end of the unit compose their own bucket drumming pieces.

Physical Education - Mr Norman and Classroom teachers



iTrain (Cross Country and Fitness) - This unit is designed to empower students to achieve personal growth, regardless of their individual fitness abilities, working towards our school cross country and general fitness utilizing a range of different training methods.

Athletics - The aim of the unit is for students to participate in a variety of field and track events. Through video, peer and teacher feedback, students are able to implement this knowledge to improve their performance.

Art - Mrs Wing

Year 6 students are exploring the elements of art and the techniques and tools artists use to bring their ideas to life. Each lesson introduces a new technique, using a range of materials to build their creative skills. Their work

will be inspired by New Zealand culture and familiar Kiwiana objects, creating a colourful collection of artworks along the way.

Pottery – Mrs Wathen

In Pottery students are learning to use routines and procedures in the room. This term they will cover basic techniques of pinch pots, joining, form, mark making and glazing. Students will explore the pottery techniques necessary to create artworks inspired by our cultural heritage and the artifacts we hold close as kiwiana. An introduction to the wheel and

extruder and slab roller will take place early in the term.

Library – Mrs Huggins

In the Library we will be continuing to promote engaging literature, encourage critical thinking and reinforce inquiry skills. We will continue to upskill the students in their use of our Library Management System in order to help them to source information for inquiry. Learners will be encouraged to spend quality time with their book of choice, and to work towards a personal choice reading goal. Towards the end of the term, we will be encouraging students to take a reading risk and step outside their comfort zone. Teachers can choose to request reinforcement of specific skills if it suits their classroom programme.



If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the classroom teacher. We look forward to seeing you at the Student Lead Learning Conferences in Week 3 of the term.

Thank you again for your support.

Darren Bryan
Sarah Gregory
Barbara Nicholson
Laurene Merritt

Year 6 Teachers

