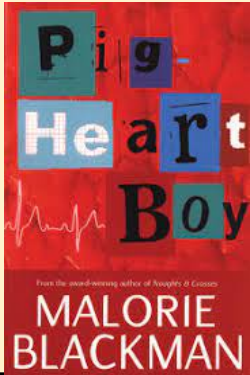


Riverside Primary School

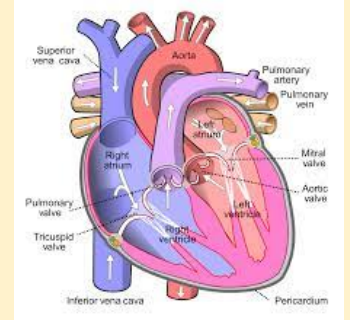
# Curriculum Newsletter for Families: Spring 2026



## Upper Key Stage Two - Year 5/ 6

This half term our theme is...

# Pump It Up!



We would like to take this opportunity to tell you all about the exciting half-term ahead. This newsletter is where you can find out all about what your child will be learning over the coming weeks, along with some ideas and suggestions for some activities you could try to support their learning at home.

### What are we learning during this theme?

This half term, all our work will be based around the exciting theme: **Pump it Up!** This theme will guide our learning across several subjects, helping the children make meaningful links and deepen their understanding.

In science, we will be exploring **the human body and the bodies of different animals**. The children will investigate how major body systems work - such as the circulatory and respiratory systems. We will be reading **Pig Heart Boy** by Malorie Blackman, one of Year 5/6's favourite novels. This powerful story will form the basis of our reading lessons, where we will explore themes such as ethical dilemmas, friendship and courage. Children will develop key reading skills including inference, prediction and summarising, and will use the text to inspire their own writing. In Art, the children will be learning about **Wassily Kandinsky**, focusing on his use of colour, shape and abstract style. They will experiment with different techniques to create their own Kandinsky-inspired paintings, exploring how art can convey emotion and movement.

This half term in French, we will be learning to **talk, read, write and describe clothing**. The children will practise using colours, adjectives and simple sentence structures, building towards describing what people are wearing and creating their own short written descriptions.

Our PE focus will be **tennis and parkour**. In tennis, children will develop accuracy, control and teamwork through rallies and simple gameplay. Parkour sessions will help improve balance, agility and confidence as the children learn to move safely across obstacle-style challenges.

As part of our No Outsiders programme Year 5/6 will be looking at **Mixed** by Arree Chung, the learning intention is to consider responses to racist behaviour. Children will understand what racism is and recognise racist behaviour and begin to know what to do if I hear or see someone being racist.




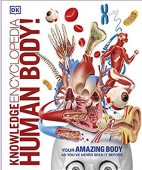

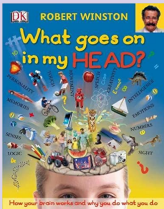
## Trips, Visitors and Experiences

This half term will be filled with science experiments.

### How can you support your child at home?

Every week, your child will receive their usual home learning tasks of reading 5 times a week for at least 20 minutes (this must be noted in reading diaries with a parent's signature), spelling practice and either writing or maths homework.

In addition to this, please find some suggestions below on how to support your child's learning.

<u>Days out and things to do:</u>	<u>Books to read:</u>	<u>Things to watch:</u>
<p>Visit The Science Museum <a href="#">Science Museum</a></p> <p>Southend art gallery: <a href="#">Beecroft Art Gallery   Southend Museums</a></p> <p>Tate Modern: <a href="https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/wassily-kandinsky-1382">https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/wassily-kandinsky-1382</a></p> 	<p>Books by Malorie Blackman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact</li><li>• Peace Maker</li><li>• Robot Girl</li><li>• Doctor Who</li><li>• Tell Me No Lies</li><li>• The Deadly Dare</li><li>• Mysteries</li><li>• Cloud Busting</li><li>• A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E</li><li>• Hacker</li><li>• Dangerous Reality</li><li>• Thief</li><li>• Hostage</li></ul> <p>The Human Body Book</p>  <p><a href="#">Knowledge Encyclopedia Human Body!</a></p> <p>Kay's Anatomy by Adam Kay</p>  <p><a href="#">Kay's Anatomy: A Complete (and Completely Disgusting) Guide to the Human Body</a></p>  <p>What goes on in my Head by Robert Winston</p>	<p>Inside Out <a href="#">Inside Out (2015) - IMDb</a></p> <p>How the body works <a href="#">How the Body Works: Movies (for Kids) - Nemours KidsHealth</a></p>