



Curious. Inspired. Resilient
Topic Overview 2026/27

Yr Group	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Rec	Marvellous Me!	We Love Julia! Let's Celebrate!	Once Upon a Time	Watch Me Grow!	Amazing Animals	Zoom, Zoom, Zoom! Off We Go!
Yr1/2 Cycle A	Making the Ordinary Extraordinary (Art) Significant Person: Quentin Blake (Inspired) Y1 Animals including humans. Observe Seasonal change	Remember! Remember! Y1 & Y2 Animals including humans	Schools Significant Person: Malala Yousafzai (Resilient) Y2 Animals including humans. Observe Seasonal change	Jamaica Significant Person: Mary Seacole (Resilient) Y1 Plants & Y2 Plants		Seashells, Sandcastles and Sunshine Enquiry Focus: Plants Observe Seasonal change
Yr1/2 Cycle B	Who's in Charge? Significant Person: King Charles III (Inspired) Y1 Plants Observe Seasonal change	The Coming of Light – Festivals (RE) Y1 & Y2 Animals including humans	Paddington's Tour of the UK Y1 Materials. Y2 Uses of Materials Observe Seasonal change		Swindon in the Past Significant Person: Isambard Kingdom Brunel (Curious) Year 2 living things and their habitats	The Race to Space Significant Person: Katherine Johnson (Resilient) Enquiry Focus: living things and their habitats Observe Seasonal change
Yr3	Brushes, Brilliance, and Blue Sea: Art of the Med Significant Person: Pablo Picasso (Inspired) Light	Britain BC Significant Person: Alice Roberts (Curious) Stone Age Animals including humans	Rhythm of the Rain The water cycle Forces and Magnets	Hidden Worlds Beneath Our Feet (Science) Significant Person: Mary Anning (Curious) Rocks, soils & Fossils	Crown and Crook: Secrets of the Sun Kings (and Queens!) Egypt Enquiry Focus: Light and colour	Castles, Coasts and Cream Teas Plants
Yr4	Rainforests Significant Person: David Attenborough (Inspired) Living things and their habitat	Ancient Greece States of matter	Mayans Animals including humans	Art as Activism (Art) Significant Person: Banksy (Curious) Sound	England: Is it 'green and pleasant' for everyone? Significant Person: Emmeline Pankhurst (Resilient) Electricity	Alfred's England: Shields, Scribes and Saxon Life Enquiry Focus: Materials and structures
Yr5	Mexico Significant Person: Frida Kahlo (Resilient) Living things and their habitats	Romans Forces	Space (Science) Earth and space	Antarctica Significant Person: Ernest Shackleton (Resilient) Properties of materials	Scandinavia Significant Person: Greta Thunberg (Inspired) Enquiry focus: Materials	Vikings Animals including humans
Yr6	Childhood through time (thematic study) Significant Person: Charles Dickens (Inspired) Electricity	Swindon – Full steam ahead (local area study) Significant Person: Richard Jefferies (Curious) Light	Extreme Earth – Volcanoes and Earthquakes Living things and their habitats	Britain at War: Conflict, Society and Change (a thematic study) Evolution & inheritance	Conquering Giants: The Epic Story of Everest and Its Heroes Significant People: Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay (Resilient) The circulatory system	Stars and Stripes (North America) Enquiry focus

Significant People

“People who made a difference” ... and what we learn from them

In our curriculum, pupils study significant individuals and groups who have made a difference to the world. The purpose is not simply to learn a set of facts about their lives. Instead, pupils learn about these people through a particular lens—such as curiosity, resilience or inspiration—so that they can think about what helped these individuals make a difference, what challenges they faced and what we can learn from them. These qualities are not intended as labels to define a person completely, but as a focus for deeper thinking and discussion.

Year Group	Significant Person	Quality to focus on	Bio
1/2 (A)	Quentin Blake	Inspired	Used creativity and imagination to bring stories to life and inspire generations of readers.
1/2 (A)	Malala Yousafzai	Resilient	Spoke out for girls’ education despite danger, showing courage and determination.
1/2 (A)	Mary Seacole	Resilient	Cared for soldiers during the Crimean War despite facing racism and rejection.
1/2 (B)	King Charles III	Inspired	Has consistently promoted environmental awareness and sustainability over many years.
1/2 (B)	Isambard Kingdom Brunel	Curious	Developed innovative engineering ideas that changed travel and industry.
1/2 (B)	Katherine Johnson	Resilient	Used her remarkable mathematical skill and perseverance to help make space travel possible, despite barriers of racism and sexism.
3	Mary Anning	Curious	Followed her curiosity to make important fossil discoveries from a young age.
3	Alice Roberts	Curious	Helps people understand science and human history through exploration and communication.
3	Pablo Picasso	Inspired	Experimented with new artistic styles and changed how we think about art.
4	Emmeline Pankhurst	Resilient	Fought persistently for women’s right to vote and equality.
4	Banksy	Curious	Uses art to question society and encourage people to think critically.
4	David Attenborough	Inspired	Explores and explains the natural world, inspiring people to care for the planet.
5	Frida Kahlo	Resilient	Created powerful art based on her lived experiences, including illness, disability and hardship.
5	Ernest Shackleton	Resilient	Led his team through extreme danger with determination and care.
5	Greta Thunberg	Inspired	Encouraged people worldwide to take action on climate change from a young age.
6	Charles Dickens	Inspired	Used his writing to highlight the challenges faced by poor children in Victorian society and encouraged people to think about social change.
6	Richard Jefferies	Curious	Encouraged people to observe and appreciate the natural world through writing.
6	Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay	Resilient	Worked together to achieve the first successful ascent of Mount Everest.