

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2025

Welcome back to Spring term! We are looking forward to a busy and fun term ahead!



English

In the first half of the term, the class will be exploring *The Kraken* by Alfred Lord Tennyson, delving into its rich imagery and powerful use of language. Through reading and discussion, the pupils will learn how poets use figurative language - such as similes, metaphors, and personification - to create vivid pictures and mood. Inspired by Tennyson's poem, the children will then have the opportunity to write their own original poems, experimenting creatively with figurative language to bring their ideas to life.

Our focus will then move to the novel *Friend or Foe* by Michael Morpurgo. Through this text, children will explore how authors write to entertain their readers, with opportunities for the pupils to write their own narratives, develop characters and build suspense in stories.

Science will also link closely with English, as the children will research and write about influential people, such as Sir Isaac Newton, Jane Goodall and David Attenborough, developing both their scientific knowledge and their non-fiction writing skills.

We are very grateful for your support at home in regularly listening to your child read aloud. Please remind them to return their book and reading diary to school every Monday.



Maths

This term in maths, pupils will build on their existing skills by learning written multiplication methods to multiply by a two-digit number, as well as formal written methods for division. They will continue their work on fractions, including multiplying a fraction by an integer and finding equivalent fractions, decimals, and percentages. In addition, the class will develop their understanding of measurement by finding the perimeter and area of a variety of shapes, and will explore statistics through interpreting and presenting data.



PSHE

This term in PSHE, the class will be learning how to recognise the signs of peer pressure and how to respond to it in positive and confident ways. Children will explore both spoken and unspoken pressures they may experience, particularly from their peers. They will also

learn about consent and appropriate physical touch, helping them to develop the confidence and skills to say “no” when needed. Later in the term, the children will be introduced to the idea of “self-talk,” considering how their thoughts and feelings can affect their well-being, as well as their friendships and relationships with others.

The children will also learn about staying safe online and making positive choices about healthy digital habits. They will explore who they can talk to if something worries them online and how to report concerns appropriately, helping them to use digital technology safely and responsibly.



Science

Our science topic this half- term will be ‘forces’. The children will investigate air resistance and friction through practical activities, as well as learn about Sir Isaac Newton and his life and scientific work. They will also explore how forces are used in everyday mechanisms, including levers and pulleys, developing their understanding through hands-on investigation and enquiry.

Next half-term the pupils will investigate ‘living things and their habitats’. Learning will focus on life processes of a plant and the life cycles of a variety of different living creatures.



History

In History this term, Year 5 will be learning about the Aztecs and their fascinating civilisation. The children will discover when and where the Aztecs lived and explore aspects of daily life such as homes, food, clothing, education, and religion. They will learn about Aztec achievements, including farming, architecture, and calendars, as well as the importance of emperors and warriors. The unit will also cover the arrival of the Spanish and how this led to the fall of the Aztec Empire, helping children to understand why the Aztecs were a significant ancient civilisation.



Geography

In Geography this term, the pupils will be studying North America. The children will learn about the different countries within the continent and locate them on maps and globes. They will explore a range of physical features, including mountains, rivers, and deserts, as well as human features such as cities and landmarks. The topic will also help children understand the diverse climates and landscapes found across North America and compare them with other parts of the world.



Art and Design

This term, our learning in art will be focusing on textiles and designing and creating our own cross-stitch pieces. They will practise threading a needle, following a pattern, and using careful stitching techniques to create their own designs, developing both their creativity and fine motor skills.

Work in Design Technology will link to our science unit and the children will design and make their own marble run.



PE

PE will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term with units focused on gymnastics and football. Please send in shin pads which your child can keep in their tray and use on Thursdays.



French

Learning in French this term will include how to buy an ice cream and how to order at a café. The pupils will also learn about money and euros, as well as the French alphabet. They will develop their listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills through a range of engaging activities.



Music

This term in Music, the children will continue to explore all the Foundational Elements of Music, with a focus on key signatures and time signatures. They will develop their sound vocabulary and compose a song, considering the relationship between lyrics and melody. The class will also enjoy samba drumming and Latin American dances. In addition, the children will continue learning to play the recorder, consolidating previously learned notes and adding the new note F. They will respond to music while deepening their understanding of musical terms.



Computing

This term in Computing, the children will learn about Online Safety, including how to manage online information responsibly. They will explore Data and Information by working with flat file databases and develop their skills in Creating Media through vector drawings. The class will also learn about Understanding Binary, gaining a basic knowledge of how computers use binary to store and process information.

Many thanks

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