

Year 5 and 6 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Summer Term 1. We hope you had a restful Easter break. Please find below an overview of the main learning areas for Year 5 this half term, along with some general reminders.

English

In **writing**, the children will begin the term by **finishing our unit of work based on *Hansel and Gretel***, focusing on developing writing instructions, effective vocabulary choices and clear sentence structure.

Following this, pupils will move on to writing **non-chronological reports** inspired by the text *Island: A Story of the Galápagos*. They will learn to:

- Organise information logically
- Use subject-specific and technical vocabulary
- Write clear, factual paragraphs with appropriate headings

In **reading**, the class will be studying the novel *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*. Through this text, children will continue to develop their skills in:

- Retrieving key information
- Making inferences using evidence from the text
- Discussing characters, themes and vocabulary

Maths

This term, Year 5 pupils will begin by learning about **factors**, including identifying factors of numbers and using this knowledge to support calculation and reasoning.

They will then move on to **multiplying fractions**, building on their understanding by:

- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers
- Using visual representations and models
- Applying their knowledge to problem-solving and reasoning tasks

Throughout the term, there will be a continued focus on explaining methods clearly and using accurate mathematical vocabulary.

Science – Forces and Space: Earth and Space

In science, children will be learning about **Earth and Space**. They will explore:

- How ideas about the solar system have developed over time, including the work of key scientists
- The movement and shape of planets and other celestial bodies
- The movement and phases of the Moon
- The causes of day, night and the seasons
- How sundials tell the time
- The uses of satellites and the issue of space junk

Children will also develop their **working scientifically** skills by using models, data and observations to support explanations.

Art and Design – Sculpture and 3D: Making Memories

In art, pupils will explore **sculpture and 3D artwork**. They will:

- Learn about different sculptural techniques and materials
- Plan and design their own 3D pieces
- Experiment, problem-solve and refine their work
- Reflect on and evaluate their finished outcomes

Music – Looping and Remixing

In music, children will explore **looping and remixing**. They will:

- Create and perform looped rhythms and melodies
- Learn how to layer different sounds
- Perform confidently and in time
- Explore how music can be adapted and remixed

Computing – Mars Rover 2

Children will begin learning **about how image compression is used**. They will:

- Understand how the Mars rover sends data

- Learn basic syntax rules such as spacing and indentation
- Use 3d sculpting software
- Plan and model a Mars rover wheel

Religion and Worldviews – Why is it better to be there in person?

This unit focuses on **significant places and journeys**. Children will:

- Explore what makes a place meaningful or special
- Learn about religious pilgrimage and why it matters to some people
- Compare religious and non-religious journeys
- Reflect on shared experiences and personal beliefs

PSHE – Citizenship

In PSHE, Year 5 pupils will be focusing on **Citizenship**, including:

- Online friendships and staying safe online
- Understanding rights, responsibilities and appropriate behaviour
- Making choices and understanding the influence of others
- Developing respect for themselves and others

These lessons are taught in a supportive and age-appropriate way, encouraging discussion and reflection.

Homework

- **Spellings** will be shared weekly on Class Dojo for children to practise at home.
- **Maths homework** includes completing **15 minutes per week on TT Rock Stars**, alongside regular practice of multiplication and division facts.
- **Reading** is encouraged every night. Children should record their reading in their reading diary and discuss their books with an adult where possible.

P.E.

Outdoor PE takes place on Friday afternoon, and Swimming commences next week on Wednesday 22nd April and will take place every Wednesday until the end of term. For swimming, you child will need a bag to put their towel, swimsuits or swim shorts (which should be no longer than above the knee). Your child can also bring a pair of goggles and a

swim hat if needed. Please ensure your child always has their PE kit in school, as additional sessions may take place throughout the week.

PE kit should include:

- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt
- Black or navy shorts or joggers
- Outdoor jumper (when required)
- Trainers (different from school shoes)
- Water bottle

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher. For further information and updates, please refer to **Class Dojo**.

We are looking forward to a positive and productive half term ahead. Thank you for your continued support.

- Year 5 team.