

Year 5 – Spring 1



English

Guided reading – Children will read with an adult each week, in a small group, with a focus on a book that will also be used for home reading.

Class reader – We will read regularly, as a class, completing our novel, *Who Let the Gods Out* this half term.

Spelling – Children will be given spellings to learn each week. These will be used within a dictation task on a Monday, to check that they have been learned. We will also do whole class spelling work on key spelling rules.

Writing – Text types to be covered this half term are non-chronological reports, free verse and a recap of persuasion. Non-chronological reports will link to our RE work, where we will create information texts about local charities and their work, carrying out research and choosing how to lay out our texts. Persuasion will link to history, where we will focus on cures that were offered at the time of the Great Plague and design advertisements for these. Free verse will involve reading a selection of poems, identifying features, then creating our own, linked to our work in art.

Science

This half term in science our topics are Forces and Materials. We will complete our learning on forces by carrying out experiments about water resistance and air resistance, as well as finding out about how gears use friction to work. Then, towards the end of the half term, we will begin to look at the properties of materials, grouping and classifying these.

Computers

Computing- Programming and algorithms

This half term, children will learn to debug programs and spot errors in an algorithm that may make a program not run as smoothly. Children will try to improve already made algorithms to make them more user friendly. E.g. When mouse is clicked rather than when 'W' key is clicked. We will also continue to make use of ICT to enhance our learning in other curriculum areas, e.g. for research and presenting work.

Important dates/ information

Spellings will go home on a Monday and should be practised regularly during the week and brought back to school for the following Monday.

Homework will go home on a Friday and should be completed by a Thursday. This will often be set on Sumdog, which your child has been given a log-in to access, although there may sometimes be other tasks sent home linked to our topics. It would be helpful if children could access Times Tables Rockstars in addition to their homework, to continue developing their pace and recall of their table facts.

See 'At Home' section for information on reading books.

At Home

To help your child at home, it would be great if you could hear them read aloud at least twice a week to help them develop their expression and fluency. To support them with their comprehension skills, they should discuss their reading with you and answer questions about it. Reading of all kinds can be recorded in their journals, so please do encourage your child to access a range of text, (e.g. magazines, websites, their own chosen stories) as well as their school reading book. PE kits need to be in school every day, in case of any changes to PE sessions, or in case swimming needs to be cancelled for any reason. This consists of white T shirt, black shorts and sandshoes or trainers.

RE

Local Church: Community – Mission In this unit, we explore how the Christian community is split into areas called dioceses and the work of the bishop and role of a cathedral in these. We will consider local charities and inspirational people who have lived out their Christian mission in our area. We will find out more about the history of Christianity and research other Christian denominations, learning what we have in common, and how we can work for unity.

Sacraments: Eucharist – Memorial Sacrifice In this unit, we explore the importance of memories in our own lives and how in our Church, the memory of Jesus' sacrifice is kept alive in a special way through the Eucharist. We will revisit the story of Passover and consider how this links to this Sacrament, and use art to develop our understanding of the Last Supper. We will examine the words used at consecration to help us understand the process that takes place during Mass and how this is a living memorial to Jesus' sacrifice.

Art

We will begin our art block by revisiting prior learning by creating a colour wheel, with primary, secondary and tertiary colours. We will learn about complementary colours and harmonious colours. Our art unit this term is based on painting and colour. We will use this to find out how artists have used colour to create images of landscapes, looking at tone, warm and cool colours and how these affect mood. We will experiment with textures of paint and collage to add effects when designing our own pieces, as well as understanding foreground, middle and background within artwork.

Maths

This term will begin with our first Multiplication and Division unit. This block focuses on identifying factors and multiples, knowing what prime numbers are, and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We will also learn about square numbers.

Following this, we will begin work on our first fractions unit, where we will look at equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering fractions and improper fractions and mixed numbers.

One day each week will be focused on Statistics this half term. In this block, we will revise previous areas, such as bar graphs, pictograms and tally charts, as well as learning about line graphs, two way tables and reading timetables.

PE

Swimming will be our PE block this half term, where children will develop their technique, pace and stamina, as well as learning the importance of water safety. Children will need swimming kits in school on Fridays and should keep PE kits in school too.

History

Medicine through the ages

In this topic, we will learn what life expectancy means and how this has changed from 30 in Neolithic times, to 40 years in 1840, to around 81 years today. We will find out how living conditions, e.g. hygiene, sewerage, jobs etc, affected the lives of people 400 years ago in Britain and how the Great Plague impacted lives, as well as learning what people believed had caused it or would cure it. Significant discoveries, e.g. vaccines by Edward Jenner, will be researched and compared, with children ordering these chronologically and discussing their relative importance.

Music

We will be using Charanga with a focus on learning a song, with discussion of tempo, lyrics, rhythm and timing.

PHSE/RSE

This half term, through the Gospel stories of Zacchaeus and the Calming of the Storm, we will explore what it means to have faith, and how this can help people in the 'storms' of life. We will also think about how people can change and the ways that we can show acceptance to others. Linked to our ICT, we will learn about keeping safe online.