



Year 5 Curriculum Overview

Autumn term 1 2026-27



English

This term we are using a short film called 'Paraphernalia' to write a descriptive paragraph on part of the story. The children will retrieve the grammar skills of subject-verb agreement, verbs being the 'heart' of the sentence, adverbs, adjectives, ensuring a sentence makes sense, characters thoughts and feelings and main and subordinate clauses. The children will use what they have learnt to transcribe a coherent paragraph.

The second text is non-fiction called 'Everything You Need To Know About Snakes'. During this unit, we will be focusing on organisational devices such as, cohesion and layout devices. The children will revise and learn noun phrases including relative clauses, verb tenses, vocabulary choices and modal verbs. The children will be creating an informative text based on their interests (not animals) with at least three sections.



Maths

The children will begin the Autumn term by understanding tenths as part of a whole, representing tenths in different ways (both as decimals and fractions) and to calculate mentally. The children will count in ascending and descending order as well as using different manipulatives. The children will compose and calculate with decimals including column addition and subtraction. They will use part whole models and bar models to help partition decimals into their place value. They will understand hundredths as parts of a whole and represent this in different ways. Finally, they will use knowledge of decimals to solve problems in different contexts such as length.



Science

In this Physics unit, forces and mechanisms, children will build on previous knowledge learnt in year 3. Children will learn to:

- Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.
- Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces.
- Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.



History

'Why were there so many restless minds in Cordoba and Baghdad?'

This term, the children will talk about how the city of Baghdad was built and how learning flourished there. They will look explore: Astronomy, Maths, Geography, Science, Technology, Medicine.



Geography

'Why is California so thirsty?'

This unit links nicely with our previous geography learning on 'Deserts'. Children will use their knowledge of precipitation and arid environments to understand the factors, which make California prone to droughts. In these lessons, children will explore how this affects plants and humans living in these conditions.



RE

'What do Muslims learn from the prophets as role models?'

The children have already learnt about the beginning of Islam and the importance of the Qur'an. They will build on this by listening to stories from the holy book and gaining lessons on how Muslims follow the teachings of the prophets, in order to live their lives, devoted to Allah.



Computing

This term, the children are learning about 'Quizzing'. The children will work towards answering these three key questions, throughout the unit:

- What are the key features that make a quiz engaging and effective?
- How does adding feedback improve a quiz for users?
- Why is debugging important when creating a quiz?

This year, 'Online Safety' is embedded throughout each unit taught, rather than a stand-alone topic.



PE (Thursday & Friday)

In PE this term, the children will be developing their skills within tennis and gymnastics. During tennis we will be practising our ball control, rallies and forehand/backhand strokes. Within gymnastics, the children will be working in partners to show a variety of balances both on the floor and on apparatus.



French

Children will continue to learn about French phonics rules in order to help them pronounce new vocabulary and unknown words. They will focus on sentence order and correct adjective noun placement. These skills alongside acquiring new vocabulary, will increase the childrens fluency and ability to produce written and oral production of the language.



Music

In Music, children will explore improvisation using the backing of 'My Best Friend' as the accompaniment and stimulus. They will improvise confidently over a drone or groove and compose a short ternary piece using Music Notepad.



Art

This term, the children will be investigating how drawing can express depth, inspired by the work of Charlie Mackesy and Elizabeth Catlett.



Important information:



PE days: Thursday and Friday.



Home learning: Sent out on a Friday afternoon and returned the following Thursday via Dojo.



Supporting learning at home:



Spellings: learn and practice a weekly list of 10 spellings at home.



TTRS/Numbots: please engage with short, sharp bursts at least 3 times a week and log this in the home communication planners.



Reading: please read with your child at home and log this in the at home communication planners.

STRIVE for Success