



Year 5 Autumn Term 2026 Information

Literacy

During the first half of the term, we will be using our new text 'Queen of the Falls' as inspiration for our writing. The children will learn about the life of Annie Edson Taylor and will explore a variety of writing outcomes, including diary writing and consolidation of previously learned punctuation.

During the second part of the term, our text will look at fictional writing, focussing particularly on traditional tales. The children will be taught spelling, punctuation and grammar both discreetly, as required, and as part of our literacy sequences. They will also be given a list of spellings each week in their Spelling Journals that they will become familiar with via various weekly activities. Reading comprehension skills will be developed through our Reading Pathways sequences.

Maths

Maths is taught 5 times a week using Power Maths. Each lesson begins with a recap of prior learning ('sticky learning'). We then move on to the main focus of that day's lesson. This term, our units will be **Place Value within 100,000, Place Value within 1,000,000, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division** and **Fractions**.

History

Our main topic for the whole term, '**Dynamic Dynasties**' teaches children about the history of ancient China, focusing primarily on the Shang Dynasty. It explores the lasting legacy of the first five Chinese dynasties, some of which can still be seen in the world today.

Geography

This term, our geography topic is called '**Investigating our World**'. This is a skills and knowledge based project which will teach the children about locating map features using a range of methods. They learn about the Prime Meridian, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), and worldwide time zones and study interconnected climate zones, vegetation belts and biomes. The children will also learn about human geography and capital cities worldwide before looking at the UK motorway network and settlements. They carry out an enquiry to identify local settlement types.

Science

'**Forces and Mechanisms**', our science topic this term teaches the children about the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction, with children exploring their effects. We will look at and learn about mechanisms, their uses and how they allow a smaller effort to have a greater effect.

We will also be looking at '**Earth and Space**'. This project will look at our Solar System and its spherical bodies. The children will describe the movements of Earth and other planets relative to the Sun, the Moon relative to Earth and the Earth's rotation to explain day and night. The children will have the opportunity to experience the Space Dome, in November, to enhance and enrich their learning of this topic.

Art and Design

Our art and design project for the term, 'Taotie', links to our main topic, '***Dynamic Dynasties***'. It will teach the children about the significance and art of the taotie motif, including ancient and contemporary casting methods.

We will also look at '***Tints, Tones and Shades***'. A project which will teach the children about colour theory. They will study the colour wheel and explore mixing tints, shades and tones. The children will learn about significant landscape artworks and features of landscapes before using this knowledge to create landscape paintings.

Design and Technology

Our topic for the term, '***Moving Mechanisms***' will teach the children about pneumatic systems. They will experiment with pneumatics before designing, making and evaluating a pneumatic machine that performs a useful function.

Music

During the first half term, we will study rock music based on the song '***Livin' on a Prayer***'. After half term, we will move on to studying jazz music as a genre. Through both units, the children will be learning about musical elements such as tone, rhythm and dynamics.

RE

This term, the children will be studying the religious festivals '***Dharma Day***' from the religion 'Buddhism' and '***Holi***' which is recognised by Hindus.

Computing

This term, the children will be using Purple Mash to learn how to create a game. This unit is called 'Game Creator' and will teach children how to design and construct their own game, building levels and characters linked to a theme.

PE

On Wednesdays, we cover our outdoor PE curriculum. This term, we will be learning how to play tag rugby and netball. The children will develop their dribbling, passing and shooting skills and will develop their knowledge of the rules and refereeing.

Our indoor PE sessions are on a Thursday and will cover yoga and team building activities this term. The children will learn poses that challenge their balance, flexibility and strength. They will learn how to use their breath to hold poses, move within poses and transition from pose to pose. We will explore how to link poses to create a flow and develop leadership skills to create, refine and lead their own flow.

PSHE

During the first half of the term, we will be looking at the Jigsaw unit '***Being Me in My World***'. This explores the responsibilities of being a member of our class and of year 5, as well as being a citizen of the UK. We will also look at rewards and consequences, exploring how our actions affect ourselves and other people.

After half term, we will be looking at the Jigsaw unit '***Celebrating Difference***'. This unit of work looks at different cultures, racism and bullying, and celebrates differences from across the world.

French

To begin the half term, the children will be exploring '***As-tu un animal***' - 'Do you have a pet?'. By the end of this unit we will be able to: Know the nouns for 8 common pets; Ask somebody if they have a pet and give an answer back; Say in French what pet we have/do not have and give our pet's name; and start to use the simple conjunctions *et* (and) and *mais* (but) to make more complex and interesting sentences.

The next unit will be based around '**Quelle est la date aujourd'hui**' - 'What is the date today?'. This unit explores the names of the 12 months, asking for and recalling the date, asking when someone's birthday is and telling others when our birthdays are.

Key reminders

- Please remember that PE kit should be worn into school on PE days. In year 5, our PE days are Wednesday and Thursday.
- Please name all items of school uniform.
- Please encourage your children to read at home at least 5 times a week, ideally for 20 minutes every day. Remember that all reading is valuable.
- Please encourage your child to use Times Tables Rockstars as much as possible to practise their multiplication and division facts.
- Please ensure your child has a bottle of water to drink in the classroom every day.
- Medication: please let us know if your child has to take any medication at school. There is a green form for you to fill in so that we can administer it.

How to support your child at home..

Ensure children are reading at least 5x a week (20 mins a day)

TTRS (if you would like to)

Spellings will be sent home on a Monday in children's Spelling Journal and the children will be quizzed on them the following Monday.

Key dates for the Autumn term

Tuesday 22nd September	Children to bring their parent(s)/carers to see their classroom and say hello to their teacher
26th October – 6th November	Half Term (2 weeks)
Tuesday 10th November	Space Dome
Tuesday 9th December @ 2pm and Wednesday 10th December @ 6pm	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Concert at St Paul's Church
Friday 18th December	Term ends for children

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Fallon, Miss Wright, Mrs Luxton and Mrs Sweet