



Year 5 Curriculum Overview Summer 1

This is an overview of what we will be learning in Year 5 this half term. You can find further curriculum information on the school website.

English



Guided Reading: In Guided Reading, the children will read and explore a range of carefully selected fiction, non-fiction and poetry extracts while developing key comprehension skills. They will focus on vocabulary, word choice and meaning, retrieval, comparison, inference, prediction and summarising, as well as discussing themes, author choices and how texts are structured.

Writing:

Our stimulus this half term is *The Chocolate Tree* by Linda Lowery, a Mayan folktale about a kind god who gives the cacao tree to humans. The children will write an engaging narrative using already learnt expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, direct speech, relative clauses, pronouns for cohesion, and developing their use of figurative language and dialogue. This unit will develop the children's ability to organise ideas clearly, create atmosphere in storytelling, and improve their accuracy in grammar and punctuation.

Spelling:

Children will continue to practise proofreading and spelling strategies using statutory and personal word lists. They will also continue to look at making choices at the point of writing, including etymological/morphological strategies and further homophones, such as morning/mourning, who's/whose, father/farther.

Maths



Shape: In this unit, the children will develop their understanding by identifying and comparing 2D and 3D shapes based on their properties, including angles, sides, edges, faces and vertices. They learn to measure and draw angles accurately using a protractor and classify angles as acute, obtuse or reflex.

Position and direction: The children will explore position and direction by describing positions using coordinates in the first quadrant. They learn to translate shapes on a grid and describe movements, including reflections. Throughout the half term, the children will be using mathematical vocabulary to explain their reasoning and solve problems involving shape, position and direction.

RE



To the ends of the Earth

This half term, children will learn about the Holy Spirit in Scripture, especially the gifts given to the Messiah and at Confirmation. They will explore the Sacrament of Confirmation, its signs and symbols, and understand discipleship through Mary and the saints, linking the Spirit's gifts and fruits to Christian life and the Rosary.

Science



Life cycles: In this unit, the children will explore and compare the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. They will learn that other mammals have life cycles similar to humans, while also being introduced to exceptions such as egg-laying mammals. The children will learn in more detail about amphibians by exploring the frog life cycle and metamorphosis. They then learn about insect life cycles, including both complete and incomplete metamorphosis. Finally, they will explore the life cycle of birds, from egg to adult. Throughout this unit, the children carry out a research enquiry, identifying similarities and differences between the life cycles of different animal groups.

PSHE/ RSE



The Holy Trinity

This half term, the children will learn about the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They explore how these three persons are connected and understand that the Holy Spirit guides and supports people in their daily lives. The children will be learning that the Holy Spirit works through us to show God's love, kindness, and goodness to others in the way we think, act, and care for those around us.

Humanities:



Ancient Maya

The children learn about the Maya civilisation, including who they were, where and when they lived, and how their society was organised. We will explore beliefs, writing, numbers, food, and daily life using sources and artefacts. The children will develop their history skills by making inferences, using timelines, and identifying change and continuity. They will compare the Maya civilisation with Britain at the same time and consider its impact on modern society, developing their historical vocabulary.

Music:



Motown 'Dancing In The Street' by *Martha and the Vandellas*. The children will listen to, appraise and sing, 'Dancing In The Street'. They will learn about the significance of this song in Motown's history. The children will learn and use musical notation and play these notes on an instrument.

PE



Dance: The children will be using animal-inspired movement and developing it into storytelling through mime and improvisation. Learning how to respond to music with controlled movement and stretching, and they will use simple props to enhance performance. They will create and perform sequences and comment on each other's work.

Computing



Stop Motion Studio

In Computing, children will create a short stop-motion animation, making small changes between images to show movement. They will develop a simple story idea and break it into clear storyboard stages with basic characters. Children will refine their models for smooth animation, edit out unnecessary frames, add simple effects and titles, and offer constructive feedback to peers.

D&T



Electrical systems: Doodlers

This half term the children will learn how motors are used in electrical products and explore how they make everyday items work. We will be investigating existing products to understand the factors that influence their design and function. Then the children will design and develop their own unique electrical doodling product, applying what they have learned. Finally, they will create a DIY kit, enabling another person to assemble their product independently, following a clear design brief.

Spanish



Who I am & where I live: The children will practise giving personal information including their name, age and where they live. They will learn to recognise questions, choose correct responses and build short phrases. We will explore how verb endings show who is performing an action and use a dictionary to identify nouns and their gender.

How to help at home...

- Read every night and record reading in your child's reading records.
- Times tables Rockstars 30 minutes a week
- Practise spellings from Y5/6 Statutory Spelling List