

Year 5 Newsletter

Spring Term
2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

This newsletter will give you a snap shot of the Year 5 Spring Term curriculum.

As we find ourselves back in lockdown once again, we want to reassure you that we will strive to ensure that your children will have the opportunity to continue learning the Year 5 curriculum, mirroring closely what we would do in school.

We must thank you all for the support, patience and hard work you have put in to ensuring your child can access Google Classroom and Google Meet and the resources we are sending. More importantly, we must congratulate our pupils for their dedication to their learning in these unprecedented times. They are a true credit to you.

Finally, we would like to remind you that if you have any worries or concerns or just need to clarify anything, we are just at the end of the phone and we will be more than happy to help.

Mr Townley

RE

Spring term begins with the topic of Community - Mission. This is where we look at how different people live their mission, specifically looking at a Bishop's mission and the role of a diocese.

In Relating - Eucharist, children will explore how memories are kept alive, and how the Eucharist keeps the memory of Jesus' sacrifice alive.

In the topic of Giving - Lent/Easter, children learn and understand that giving or refusing to give has a cost. We will also explore the events of Holy Week, leading up to Jesus' death and Resurrection.

English

This term we will be studying a range of both fiction and non-fiction genres, including descriptive writing (mystery stories, narrative with dialogue and creating settings), persuasive writing, reports and explanations. This will be taught through the following texts - non fiction holiday Brochures and fact files, The Favela Street Kid, The Great Kapok Tree (Lynne Cherry), Brazilian Folktales and Performance Poetry linked to climate change and sustainability. Our longer narrative in the second half of the Spring term is The Secret Lake (Karen Inglis). These will be primarily driven through our geography topic: Brazil.

The National Curriculum has a particular focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar so this will continue to be integrated into all of our lessons. Children will receive a set of spellings to learn weekly, which will consist of the spelling rules we are focusing on that week and words from the statutory word lists. Children who read at home frequently produce work of a higher standard in English; therefore we encourage them to do this on a daily basis for at least 15 minutes. We will continue to update our Google Classroom page with reading resources and materials to support with this.

Maths

This term, we will continue to build on the skills learned last term, using formal methods for all four operations. The children will apply these skills and concepts in regular arithmetic activities as well as developing the application of these skills in real-life problems. Children will also develop their reasoning skills, explaining their answers and methods. We will focus on the following topics: fractions and decimals, measures, statistics, reflections and translations and multiplication methods.

According to the curriculum, all children should know their tables up to 12x12. We would encourage all children to practise regularly to increase confidence, accuracy and fluency. We will continue to use 'Times Tables Rockstars', our online mathematics programme, at school and encourage the children to use it regularly at home. We will also be setting some online challenges and homework tasks.

We have a wealth of resources in school to support with maths and we will continue to share these on Google Classroom to support pupils in their everyday maths tasks.



Science

This term, in Science, the children will be learning about some famous scientists and inventors. As part of this learning, they will create their own wildlife documentaries, find out about the life cycle of bees and test the theories of Leonardo da Vinci. The children will be able to explain the life cycles of humans, plants and some animals, exploring the differences between animal classifications. Furthermore, they will explore the work of well-known animal behaviourists, such as David Attenborough. We will also consolidate some of the Year 4 "Living things" topic too as part of the recovery curriculum.

Context Work (Foundation Subjects)

Our subject driver this term will be Geography, focusing on 'Brazil', making links to all areas of the curriculum. We will be using a range of sources to gather information about its human and physical features, focusing notably on place knowledge, such as identifying countries in South America and making comparisons between Brazil and neighbouring countries. We will also study the effects of economic features on the countries and the distribution of resources, with a focus on Fairtrade. This topic lends itself to all areas of the curriculum, such as persuasive writing to create advertisements in English to making carnival costumes in DT - the possibilities are endless!

ART and D.T.

This term we will be linking our creative and geographical objectives together. We will study Brazilian culture and customs and will design and create pieces based on this. We will also study the life and work of Brazilian artist, Romero Britto.

MUSIC

During this unit of music, produced by Oak National Academy, the children will learn new vocabulary and use body percussion while learning songs from around the world. They will learn how to maintain the pulse using the voice and body, the difference between on and off beats, to understand syncopated rhythms, ostinatos and polyrhythms.

PSHE

PSHE will be taught through Picture News and the children will explore topical news stories and link them to their own lives. They will discuss issues in the news and how they can help to raise awareness.

FRENCH

In French this term, we will be focusing on Months of the year, Sports and hobbies, Numbers 0-50, Revision of fruit, Food items including Breakfast. We will work towards developing our vocabulary and speaking in sentences.

PE

If your child is in school, our PE day this term is Friday. They will need to come to school in their PE kit on these days.

Please can we remind you that school PE kit is required:

- A plain white t-shirt
- Navy jogging bottoms or navy leggings
- A plain navy jumper
- Trainers.

We will provide the children working from home with some suggestions of activities they can complete at home on Google Classroom so that they get their weekly allowance of PE sessions.

Computing

As most of our computing curriculum relies on the application of specialist software that you may not have readily available at home, we have had to adapt the computing curriculum for the time being.

Where we can adapt these lessons so they can be accessed as part of home learning, we will endeavor to do so.

As our pupils are now spending a hugely increased amount of time online and in front of a screen, we feel it is vital to remind them of the online safety messages.

With this in mind, we will focus our lessons mainly on the online safety strand of Computing.

