

Year 5

Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



KEY DATES

End of term 3 –
Friday 11th
February

Start of term 4 –
Monday 21st
February

Parent-Teacher Conferences –
Thursday 17th and Tuesday 22nd
March

Ancient History

This term, Year 5 will study the Persian Empire. We shall learn about the empire's origins, about how it expanded and about how it was eventually defeated. We shall also explore how it was ruled, including the role of the king, his officials and the satraps. As part of this, we shall learn about the importance of art and architecture, including the sculptures from the remarkable ceremonial capital at Persepolis, and about the Royal Roads that crossed vast stretches of land.

British History

This term, Year 5 are learning about Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans. The Puritans, as particularly devout Protestants, believed they needed to purify the Church of England of any Catholic finery and ritual. Oliver Cromwell was a Puritan Member of Parliament and army commander who played a key role in the Civil War and the train and execution of Charles I. In 1653, he became Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Key vocabulary: printing press, elect, republic, commonwealth, rump Parliament, Member of Parliament (MP), dictator, Parliament of Saints, Lord Protector, House of Commons, Humble Petition and Advice.

In term 4, Year 5 will study the Restoration and the Glorious Revolution. In 1660, Parliament decreed that the son of Charles I was King Charles II. This event and the ensuing decades were called the Restoration because the monarchy was restored, along with the Church of England, and the Houses of Lords and Commons. The period between Charles I and Charles II became known as the interregnum – a pause between monarchs. In 1665 and 1666, the Great Plague and the Great Fire of London exacerbated the religious tensions that were starting to surface once again.

Key vocabulary: Restoration, Interregnum, Great Plague, Great Fire of London, Popish Plot, Exclusion Crisis, Tories, Whigs, Rye House Plot, Monmouth Rebellion, Declaration of Indulgence, Glorious Revolution, Battle of the Boyne, Bill of Rights, constitutional monarchy

English & Grammar

In term 3, children will be reading Leon Garfield's retelling of Hamlet by William Shakespeare. Hamlet is, debatably, William Shakespeare's most famous play, but it is also, perhaps, the most famous play in the entire history of English literature. You may even have heard references to several of its scenes, such as Hamlet's celebrated speech "To be, or not to be", or the discovery of the skull ("Alas, poor Yorick"). Shakespeare's longest play, Hamlet is performed frequently to this day, and it is considered a great honour for any actor to be cast in the role of the eponymous protagonist.

In term 4, children will be reading a collection of poetry about War and Empire by poets such as Wilfred Owen and Lord Byron. Through these poems, children will be encouraged to explore literary devices such as simile, metaphor and personification.

Maths

In the spring term, the children will study:

Multiplication and division

- Review multiplying and dividing whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1000
- Review common factors and multiples
- Use formal written methods of short and long multiplication to multiply up to 4-digit numbers by 1- and 2-digit numbers
- Use formal written method of short division of up to 4-digit numbers by 1-digit number
- Solve division calculations with remainders

Fractions

- Review equivalent fractions
- Recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and convert from one form to another
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number

Key vocabulary: multiple, regroup, exchange, factor, multiple, common factor/multiple, convert, numerator, denominator, improper fraction, mixed number, equivalent fractions.

Science

During the first half of the spring term, the children will continue studying physics. They will begin by learning about forces and the effect of forces. Later, they will learn about mass, gravity and weight and different types of forces.

In the second half of term, the children will continue studying physics, learning about turning forces and leavers/pulleys.

Latin

Year 5 will begin the term by consolidating their understanding of how the Romans used adjectives to form noun phrases to add detail and precision to their writing. They will then move on to study sentence types, focusing on how the Romans formed statements and questions, and how they converted from one to the other. This will allow them both to translate sentences into Latin and to read increasingly complex Latin stories.

Alongside this, children will also be learning a wide range of Latin vocabulary, and they will explore some of the English words that come from these Latin words. Their challenge is to use these new words in their creative writing in other subjects!

Religious Education

We begin the term by continuing our study of Judaism, learning in particular about Shabbat and about Jewish beliefs about the Messiah. We then move on to study Christianity. Drawing on our knowledge of the Bible from the autumn term, we explore what Christians believe about God, and discover how Christians vary in their beliefs and practices.

Music

This term, we will continue to develop our understanding of pitch, pulse and rhythm with exercises and games. We will continue putting our music theory knowledge into practice as we compose our own rhythms and melodies. This term we will also be learning about some of the instruments of the orchestra and listening analytically to pieces of music written for orchestra.

Geography

In Year 5, the children will continue revising and expanding the geographical knowledge they learned last year, with a particular focus on applying their knowledge to the continent of Europe and on developing their knowledge of important European locations.

We begin by learning about rivers with a focus on different European rivers. Then, we will move onto exploring the different types of climate in Europe and how various factors will effect it.

We then move on to other important topics in human geography: settlement, the EU and types of industries.

PSHE

The first part of this half-term is devoted to financial literacy. Children will learn about the function of money, about savings, about income and outgoings, about taxation and about the different ways to pay for things, including credit cards and debit cards. In the second half of term, children will be taught how to respond to injuries and to medical emergencies. They will learn about how and when they should ask an adult for help, including how and when to make an emergency call. They will also study basic first aid, including the facts and science relating to allergies.

PE

This term, we will be introducing hockey. This will focus around hand-eye co-ordination, teamwork and communication. We will also be looking at the difference between attacking and defending.