



Year 5 SPRING TERM TWO Curriculum Newsletter



WRITING

READING



DATES AND INFORMATION:

This half term, we are reading *Clockwork*, a dark and suspenseful tale set in a German town. Apprentice clockmaker Karl must present a new clockwork figure by Christmas Eve, while storyteller Fritz shares a chilling legend about an inventor whose mechanical creations seem to take on a life of their own. As the stories begin to merge, the line between fiction and reality becomes increasingly unclear. We will use **VIPERS** to support comprehension by exploring vocabulary, making inferences and predictions, explaining ideas, retrieving key details, and summarising the text.

This half term in English, our writers are letting their imaginations soar! In narrative work, we're inspired by *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*, creating our own imaginative stories full of life and colour. In non-fiction, we're reporting on the Titanic, learning how to write clear and engaging newspaper articles. We are also focusing on building strong writing skills:

- Using figurative language to make our writing vivid and expressive.
- Starting clauses with -ed or -ing verbs to create more complex and interesting sentences.
- Carefully selecting vocabulary to make our meaning clear and precise.
- Editing and improving our spelling to make our drafts shine.

- 5th March: World Book Day
- 10th and 11th March: Parents Evening
- 12th March: PACT Mothers' Day event
- 13th March (pm): Internet Safety
- 20th March: Red Nose Day
- 25th March: Rock Steady concert
- 26th March: PACT Easter disco
- 27th March: PACT Easter bonnet competition

PE Days: Tuesday and Wednesday

MATHS

Decimals and Percentages

This unit continues to strengthen children's understanding of decimals, fractions and percentages. Children will develop fluency with common decimals, fractions and percentages, and will learn a range of strategies to convert between equivalent decimals, percentages and fractions.

Measure – Perimeter and Area

This unit helps children learn how to work out the perimeter (the distance around the outside) and the area (the space inside) of shapes like squares, rectangles and other straight-edged shapes. They will use simple formulas such as:

Perimeter = $2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width})$

Area = $\text{length} \times \text{width}$

Children will also practise using these formulas in reverse, for example finding different rectangles that all have the same perimeter or the same area.

SCIENCE

Science: Forces

Over the next six lessons, children will explore how forces affect movement in the world around them. They will learn that objects fall to the ground because of **gravity**, and investigate **air resistance**, **water resistance**, and **friction**, discovering how these forces slow things down.

Finally, they will explore simple mechanisms such as **levers**, **pulleys** and **gears**, and learn how they make work easier by allowing a small force to have a greater effect.

Through practical investigations, pupils will see how forces are part of everyday life.



HISTORY

This half term, Year 5 are exploring **The Changing Power of the British Monarchs**. We will investigate how the role of the monarchy has evolved over time, from absolute rule to a more symbolic position today. The children will examine key events and figures that shaped the power of kings and queens, developing their understanding of cause and consequence in history. Through discussions, timelines, and source analysis, pupils are building their skills in historical enquiry while gaining a deeper appreciation of how the monarchy has influenced Britain's past and present.

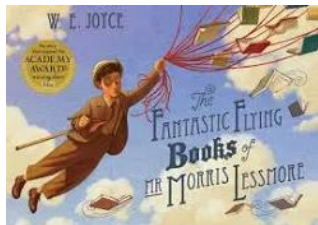


PSHE

Rights and Respect

In this unit, pupils explore what it means to have rights and to respect the rights of others. They learn to recognise how rights and responsibilities apply at home, in school and as they grow older, and consider how respect extends to the wider community and environment. Children also discuss taking responsibility for their own health, identifying positive choices they can make and understanding why maintaining healthy habits can sometimes be challenging. In addition, pupils are introduced to how local councils make decisions about spending money on community services, helping them understand how these choices affect different people. Through these discussions, children develop respect, responsibility and awareness of their role within their community.

TEXTS COVERED THIS TERM:



ART

Drawing: Depth, Emotion and Movement
This unit teaches pupils how drawing can show feeling, movement and depth. They explore how artists use colour, line and marks to create mood and motion. Children learn about strong compositions with a clear focal point before planning a print. Through shading and varied marks, they discover how tone creates depth and form. They then make a printing plate, produce a final print, and review their sketchbook work to improve their ideas. By the end, pupils understand how visual elements can express emotion and create depth and movement in art.



WAYS TO HELP AT HOME:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least 5x a week and talk to them about what they have read.

Continue to help your child learn their times tables. Encourage them to play the games on TT Rockstars

Talk to the children about the spelling pattern that we are learning about that week. Encourage them to play the games on Spelling shed.



HOMEWORK

Homework will be set on **Fridays** and given in the following **Wednesday**.

Reading (5 x 10 mins /week)

Spelling shed (3x 10 mins/week)

TT Rockstars (3x 10 mins/week)

A piece of maths (40 mins per week)

RE

This half term, pupils will explore the question: **What are Jewish food laws (Kashrut) and how do they impact Jewish life?**

Children will learn that the **Torah** is a sacred text that guides Jewish people and includes rules about food. They will explore what foods are considered kosher and why these laws are important.

Pupils will consider how following Kashrut can affect daily life, including shopping, cooking and eating with others, and how Jewish people may observe these laws in different ways. They will also reflect on ethical questions about food and make links to their own experiences and choices.