



# Year 5 SUMMER TERM 1 Curriculum Newsletter



## WRITING

This half term, our writing will focus on developing narrative skills through two engaging stimuli: *I Believe in Unicorns* by Michael Morpurgo and the short film *The Piano*. These texts will support pupils in exploring storytelling, character development, and conveying emotion in their own writing. Alongside this, there will be a strong emphasis on technical accuracy. Children will practise punctuating sentences correctly, including the use of capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks, and question marks. They will also develop their understanding of inverted commas (including the correct use of commas and punctuation within speech) and apostrophes for contraction and omission. In addition, pupils will work on enhancing the quality of their writing. They will learn how to create different effects and emphasis through careful word order, expanded noun phrases, and the use of figurative language. A key focus will also be on using a range of adverbs to link ideas and improve the flow of their writing.

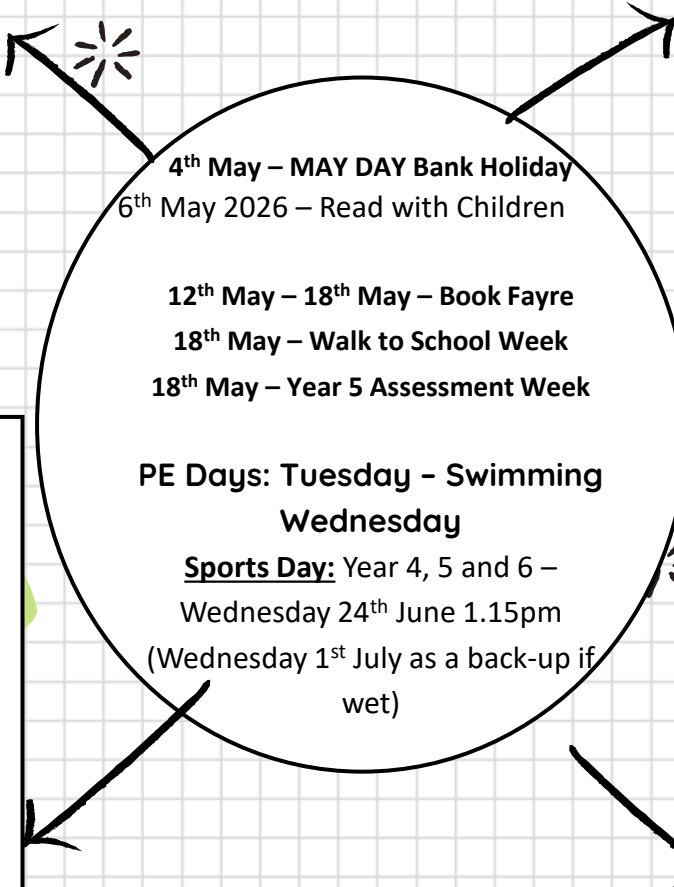
## SCIENCE

### Science: Living things and their habitats

This half term, we will build on our previous learning to deepen our understanding of life cycles, reproduction and animal characteristics. We will explore new concepts such as asexual reproduction and metamorphosis, helping us to understand how life cycles continuously progress. We will also revisit prior knowledge to support recall and strengthen our understanding. Through a range of engaging activities, including investigating, researching animals and presenting our findings, we will develop both our scientific knowledge and creativity.



## DATES AND INFORMATION:



## READING

This half term, we are reading *The 1,000-Year-Old Boy* by Ross Welford, a moving and thought-provoking story about friendship, loss and what it means to truly live. The novel follows Alfie Monk, who looks like a normal eleven-year-old boy but has actually been alive for over a thousand years. After a sudden change in his life forces him to attend school for the first time, Alfie must try to fit in while keeping his extraordinary secret. As he forms new friendships, he begins to question whether living forever is really a gift. We will use VIPERS to support comprehension by exploring vocabulary, making inferences and predictions, explaining ideas, retrieving key details, and summarising the text.

## MATHS

### Decimals

This half term, we will apply formal methods of addition and subtraction to numbers with up to three decimal places. We will also learn to multiply and divide decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000. Through a range of problem-solving activities, we will build confidence and flexibility in choosing efficient ways to work with decimal numbers.

### Negative numbers

We will be introduced to negative numbers and learn how they relate to and compare with positive numbers. Using this understanding, we will begin to calculate with both negative and positive numbers.

### Properties of shapes

This half term, we will also learn to measure angles accurately in degrees and create angles of a given size. We will also calculate missing angles and use our knowledge of shape properties to explain our reasoning. Through this, we will develop confidence in justifying how we solve problems involving angles and lengths.



## GEOGRAPHY

### Our Local Area

This half term, we will develop our map-reading skills by using grid references to identify features of our local area and plan journeys between locations. We will revisit the terms “physical” and “human features” to explore what our local area contains and consider how it could be improved through thoughtful changes.



## PSHE

In this unit, we explore how growing older brings increased independence alongside greater responsibility, considering the decisions, behaviours, and expectations placed on teenagers at home and in society. We reflect on the relationship between freedom and accountability, developing an understanding of how trust is earned and maintained. Alongside this, we examine the influence of media, particularly images of celebrities, learning to question how realistic these portrayals are and how they can affect self-esteem. The unit encourages us to value non-physical qualities such as kindness, confidence, and respect, helping us build a more balanced and critical perspective on ourselves and others.

### TEXTS COVERED THIS TERM:



## 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 **Thursday**.

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)

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

### Mechanical Systems: Pop-up books

In this unit, we will design and create our own interactive storybook.

We will begin by planning each page and organising the structure of our book. We will then build and assemble the components needed to create moving mechanisms. As we make our books, we will learn how to hide mechanical parts using layers and spacers for a neat finish. We will explore a range of mechanisms and materials to bring our stories to life and make them interactive for the reader.

Finally, we will add captions to clearly illustrate and enhance our story.

## RE

### What do Muslims learn about Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)? How might this help Muslims lead a good life?

We will learn about Islam and its key beliefs, including belief in one God (Allah). We will find out about the life of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and why he is important to Muslims.

We will explore how the Qur'an was revealed to him and what stories about his life teach Muslims about qualities such as kindness and honesty. We will also learn how he spread the message of Islam and how the religion continued to grow.

We will think about how these teachings help Muslims live a good life today.