

This half term Year 5/6 are learning about:

Humans / UK



English

In English, Year 5 will start by looking at a newspaper report based on our latest class book: 'The Witches'. We will be looking at the structure and different features of newspapers. Then we will plan, write and proof-read our own newspaper report on a commonly known fairy tale later on in the unit. This unit will have a special focus on modal verbs and punctuation. After this, we will also be looking at a friendship story called 'Lily and the Snowman' and have a focus on adverbs and parenthesis. The class book for Year 5M will be 'Coraline' by Neil Gaiman, whilst Year 5F will be 'The Land of Roar' by Jenny McLachlan.

To begin the half term, Year 6 will be continuing with their work on the short story: 'Blackberry Blue'. They will finish reading the text before then exploring the different techniques used by the author to create character. The children will next explore the structure of this rags to riches tale before then planning, writing and proof-reading their own short stories inspired by this text. After this, Year 6 will have the opportunity to apply their diary, letter and report writing skills when completing a short unit of work on picture book called 'Rose Blanche' by Ian McEwan. Just before Christmas, the children will complete some work on nonsense poems. Grammar, spelling and handwriting will continue to be focuses too! In Story Time, both classes will be reading 'Phoenix' by S F Said.

Maths



This half term, Year 5 will be continuing with their topic on multiplication and division. They will be learning about multiples, factors and prime, cube and square numbers. Then, we will be focusing on multiplying and dividing by 3 and 4 digit numbers, using written methods. After this, we will use all our knowledge learnt so far this term to answer word problems. We will also look at graphs this half term. This will include looking at data in a table and on a line graph. Later, we will start our fractions unit. Our daily morning work sessions will provide children with time to further develop their arithmetic skills.

Year 6 will begin this half term by completing their topic on division. They will learn how to use a formal written method for long division. After this, children will learn how to identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers. The children will then work on developing their understanding of fractions and decimals and will learn how to perform calculations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) with these. Just before Christmas, they will start some work on different units of measure with the main focus being conversions. Daily morning work sessions will provide children with time to further develop their arithmetic skills.



Science/Topic – Humans

In this topic, children will be finding out about the circulatory system and the functions of the heart, lungs and blood. As part of our work on this, we will learn how water and nutrients are transported around the body. At the same time, children will learn about maintaining a healthy lifestyle, including the importance of exercise and eating healthy as well as finding out about dangerous substances and the effects they can have on the body. The children will have the opportunity to take part in a range of physical activities that will allow them to develop an understanding of how their bodies work.

Art/DT

In DT this half term, Year 5 and 6 will be looking at cooking and nutrition. We will begin by exploring different recipes, as well as focusing on the work of a specific chef. After, the children will learn and practise new skills and taste a variety of ingredients. Following this, we will begin designing our own healthy dish and finish by making this meal and evaluating what we have made.



PE

Both Year 5 and Year 6 will develop their flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance while taking part in gymnastics lessons. Year 5 and Year 6 will also be developing their hockey skills in their games lessons. An outdoor PE kit is required.



PE kits
needed
Monday to
Friday

Things to do at home

- Regular reading with your child. When they have finished the book, ask them questions about what they have read.
- Learn times tables.
- Complete homework and spelling homework and hand it in on the right day (Year 5 - Friday) (Year 6 - Wednesday).

Key Vocabulary

This term, Year 5 are learning the following words:

- dozen
- value
- circulatory
- transportation
- nutrients
- dice
- unexplained
- astonishment

Year 6 are learning these words:

- vocation
- commitment
- nutrients
- vessel
- transportation
- features
- landmark
- inspirational

RE/PSHE



Year 5 will begin the half term by completing their work on 'Life Choices' which includes the Sacrament of Marriage. Year 6 will complete their topic: 'Vocation and Commitment' which focuses on the commitment a priest makes.

After this, both Year 5 and Year 6 will be learning about another faith: Judaism. In these lessons, Year 5 will focus on the celebration of Passover and Year 6 will explore Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; celebrations which mark the new year of the Jewish calendar.

As we get closer to Christmas, the Advent topics will begin and the children will explore waiting for the coming of Jesus. This will include learning about the annunciation, the visitation, the nativity, and visits by the shepherds and the wise men.



Music

This half term, both Year 6 classes will start with a unit of work focussed around the song, 'You've got a friend', by Carol King. They will then move onto looking at inspirational women working in music. Both music units will provide children with a chance to listen to and appraise songs, as well as learn to sing and play (on a glockenspiel) parts of them and to have a go at composing their own sections.

Computing

This half term, both Year 5 classes will be focusing on online safety in their computing lessons. They will be thinking about their own responsibilities when online: this includes exploring the use of passwords and SMART rules. We will learn about citing sources and show an understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of different forms of communication; this will include a focus on the reliability of sources.

