

This half term Year 5/6 are learning about:

Living Things



English

In English this half term, Year 5 will begin by writing fiction stories all about 'conquering the monster!' with a focus on story openings and endings. After this, the children will be writing a persuasive advert based on Alex Rider's Gadgets. They will be reading 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver with Mrs Moses and 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold with Miss Fura. Children will explore the language used in the text and the impact that it has on the reader. They will also be developing their use of punctuation and sentence structures through guided and shared writing. Throughout this term, Year 5 will be continuing to improve their reading, spelling and handwriting through daily taught sessions.

In Year 6, the children will be focussing on a short story, called 'The Gulf'. The aim of this unit is for children to have lots of opportunities to write: applying all their skills. They will plan and write: diary entries, and story endings and prequels. They will also learn about and create their own instructional texts. Towards the end of the term, the children will explore a short video clip (Alma). Their first written response to this will be a persuasive leaflet. In all areas of the curriculum, there will be a push on making good use of proof-reading time and using neat, joined handwriting.

Maths



Year 5 will be learning about geometry next, learning about types of angles, measuring and drawing angles and then finally, solving problems involving angles. Then, the children will be learning about position and movement, including naming and plotting points on a grid before moving onto describing the translation, movement and reflections of a shape on a grid. Towards the end of the half term, the children will work on measurements including converting units of length, mass and time, as well as telling the temperature.

Year 6 will begin the half term by focussing on geometry – investigating angles, drawing quadrilaterals and triangles and drawing nets of three-dimensional shapes. Next, children will be learning about finding the area and perimeter of rectangles, as well as how to calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles. They will also estimate the volume of cubes and cuboids as well as using a formula to calculate total volumes. After this, they will be learning about position and movement, describing reflections and translations on a grid. At the end of the half term, they will begin their unit on graphs and averages.

In both Year 5 and Year 6, the children will continue to develop their arithmetic skills during weekly tests and morning work.

Topic – Living Things



This half term, Year 5 will be studying living things. (Year 6 will cover this Science topic during the Pentecost Term). The children will begin by learning about Carl Linnaeus, who invented the classification system we use today. The children will focus on how living things are classified and sort – using branching keys – and give reasons why a particular living thing belongs to a specific group. After this, children will be learning about the life cycles of different plants and animals. They will create their own animal to classify, using its characteristics, and finally, learn about reproduction in plants and animals. To help them to understand about offspring and inheritance, they will create their own Mr or Little Miss Character child!

Art/DI



Year 5 and 6 will be creating art work inspired by Ciacometti using wire and Modroc to create a person in action. They will focus on Ciacometti's work, forming their own opinions on his work. They will practice their wire wrapping, where they will either loop, bend, or wrap a single wire or several wires to form a shape.

PE



PE kits
needed
Monday to
Friday

In PE, Year 5 and 6 will focus on an Invasion game – netball. As part of this unit, they will work on improving their throwing and catching skills. They will also learn about attacking and defending. They will need outdoor P.E kit, which could include black tracksuit bottoms and a jumper. Their second PE unit will be gymnastics, where they will develop strength, technique and flexibility. Children will apply the skills they have learnt when developing sequences. For this, children will need indoor PE kits which consist of a white T-shirt and black shorts.

Music



Year 5 and Year 6 are not focussing on Music this half term.

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 using the new Times Tables Rock Star app.
- ❖ Complete homework and spelling homework and hand it in on a Wednesday.
- ❖ Learn how to tell the time.

RE/PSHE



We will begin by completing the 2nd topic for this term which explores our understanding of the Eucharist.

In 'Memorial sacrifice' Year 5 learn about how Jews celebrate the Passover and develop their understanding of the Last Supper. The Year 6 topic, 'Unity' enables children to consider how sharing the Eucharist binds the Church family together.

We will end the half term with the Lent/Easter topics, exploring various aspects of this season, including the stories of Holy Week. Year 5 will focus on the topic 'Sacrifice' which enables them to learn about Jesus' time in the desert and his betrayal by Judas. Year 6, in their topic 'Death/New Life', explore the importance of Holy Week for Christians.

Computing



In Computing, Year 6 will start the half-term by learning about what a spreadsheet is and how to use Excel – for example, to work out basic calculations or to solve a problem. After this, the children will move onto their 'Blogging' unit. They will learn what a blog is and then plan and write their own blogs.

French



In French, Year 5 will be starting their new unit: Je Me Présente. In this unit, the children will learn how to:

- Count to 20 in French.
- Say their name and age in French.
- Say hello and goodbye and then ask how somebody is feeling and answer how they are feeling.
- Say where they live in French.
- Say if they are French or English.