

English - This half term, we will be working intensively to improve our reading skills, improving our literal, deductive and inferential questioning skills and building fluency and speed and vocabulary knowledge. The children will be encouraged to compare and contrast characters, settings, author choice and style across their reading. We begin by continuing with our class reader, **The Explorer, by Katherine Rundell**. We will consolidate our knowledge of pronouns and subordinate clauses before moving in to improving our writing of cohesive paragraphs. Handwriting and spelling will continue to be taught discretely and practiced regularly. Please continue to read widely at home for pleasure and to build up speed, fluency and understanding.

Where is God in Our Learning? - In our learning this term, we will continue to recognise that God is present in all that we do, guiding us to use our gifts and talents for good. In RE, as we explore the mystery of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost and the celebration of Confirmation, children will reflect on how God's Spirit helps us grow in faith and inspires us to make the world a better place. This understanding will be woven through all areas of the curriculum: showing creativity and care in DT as we design and make cushions, perseverance and fairness in Maths when learning about factors and fractions, imagination and empathy in English through ghost stories and persuasive writing about South America, curiosity and respect for God's creation in Science when studying forces, and teamwork and resilience in PE through athletics and tennis. Throughout all subjects, we encourage the children to see God in their learning, in one another, and in the way they use their gifts to serve others.

PSHE - In this half term in PSHE, Year 5 pupils will be learning about citizenship, including rules, laws and the consequences of breaking them. They will also explore how Parliament works and understand how decisions are made in the UK, helping them develop their awareness of rights and responsibilities.

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Computing - This half term in Computing, Year 5 pupils will be creating stop motion animations. They will learn how to plan, capture and edit sequences of images to create short animated films, developing their creativity and understanding of digital media.

Geography - This half term in Geography, Year 5 pupils will be learning about the physical and human geography of North and Central America. They will explore key features such as climate zones, rivers and mountains, as well as looking at how people live, work and use the land in different regions.

Religion - We will be learning about the mission of the Church and how the message of Jesus was spread to people around the world. The children will explore the role of the disciples after Pentecost, reflecting on how they were called to share the Good News with courage and faith.

Stewardship mission for this half-term - Inspired by St Francis of Assisi, we will strive to care for God's creation by making thoughtful choices that protect and respect the world around us. As a class, we will take responsibility for our environment by ensuring the whiteboard and classroom lights are turned off when not in use, reducing waste, reusing materials where possible, and recycling carefully. We will also care for living things by looking after our school grounds, showing respect for plants and animals, and helping to keep our local area clean. Through our actions, we aim to follow St Francis' example by showing gratitude for God's gifts and working together to make a positive difference in our world.

Spanish - Year 5 will continue to enjoy Spanish lessons with Snr. Lopez, our Foreign Language assistant, each Wednesday. They will work on building confidence and learning new vocabulary through songs and games.

P.E. - This half term, Year 5 pupils will be learning tennis and athletics. In tennis, they will develop control, coordination and basic skills such as forehand and backhand shots. In athletics, children will practise running, jumping and throwing, focusing on improving their speed and technique. They will also build teamwork and sportsmanship skills throughout.

D.T. - In Design and Technology this half term, children will be designing and making their own cushion covers. We will learn key skills such as measuring, cutting fabric safely and accurately, and joining materials using simple sewing techniques. Throughout the process, children will evaluate their work and consider how their designs could be improved.

Science - Year 5 will be exploring a range of forces including gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance, and begin to understand how these forces affect the movement of objects. They will learn that gravity is the force that pulls objects towards the Earth, and investigate how different forces can slow things down or change how they move. Through practical investigations, pupils will develop their "working scientifically" skills by asking questions, making predictions, carrying out fair tests and recording their results. They will also learn to identify patterns and explain their findings using appropriate scientific vocabulary.