

Year 5 Autumn Term Newsletter – September 2026

Dear Year 5 students and families,

Welcome to the start of an exciting new school year! I am looking forward to getting to know you all and supporting you as you take on new challenges, develop new skills, and continue to grow in confidence. We have an exciting year ahead filled with engaging learning opportunities, creative activities, and memorable experiences. I value the partnership between home and school and look forward to working together to ensure every child in year 5 has a happy, successful, and rewarding year.

Autumn term topic

This term, we will be exploring the exciting topic of '*Magnificent Mountains*'. We will be focussing on how and why mountains are formed, the different types of mountains, learning map skills, using computing skills to research famous explorers and looking at places around the world that are home to some of the world's tallest mountains and ranges.

English

After a successful year of implementing the new HfL English sequence, we are pleased to be continuing with it this year. The carefully structured lessons support the development of key writing skills and embed essential writerly techniques, enabling children to write with increasing confidence, purpose, and creativity.

Our first sequence of lessons this new term, is to write to inform – a non-chronological report about monsters, followed by writing to entertain using a narrative called 'Cloud Tea Monkeys'.

The second half of the Autumn term is to write to entertain using a poetry called 'Where the poppies now grow', then using a narrative called 'The Promise' to write to entertain once more, finished by writing to inform using a biography called 'Groundbreaking Scientists'. I'm genuinely excited to see how this new sequence of lessons will shape and support each child's unique writing journey, helping them grow in confidence, creativity, and skill.

Mathematics

In the first half term of Year 5, the focus is all about deepening the children's understanding of place value, working confidently with numbers up to 1,000,000 and to three decimal places. We will also explore negative numbers and introduce key new vocabulary to support mathematical reasoning and precision. As the term progresses, we'll move on to working with decimal numbers, including multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, and 1,000, ensuring a strong foundation for more complex number work ahead.

Mathematics continued!

Our learning will then progress to exploring multiples, factors, and common factors, as well as identifying patterns within times tables. We will build on this by introducing new concepts such as short division, long multiplication, and understanding prime, composite, square, and cube numbers.

This term, our focus is on strengthening the strategies developed in Year 4, deepening understanding of key Year 5 mathematical vocabulary, and building the confidence to choose and apply the most efficient methods. We will make meaningful links across learning sequences to help children think more flexibly and analytically — key traits of a confident and capable mathematician. Above all, we want our learners to feel secure when tackling multi-step problems and to see mistakes as valuable opportunities for growth.

Other Core Subjects

We are very much looking forward to embedding more of our 'revamped' curriculum this year. More information of our 'Intent', 'Implement' and 'Impact' reports are found on our website.

Science: We begin by looking at famous scientists and inventors in the first half term. We then look at living things and their habitats for the second half.

Computing: The first half will concentrate upon computing systems and networks, followed by programming of music! Interspersed with two online safety lessons, one per half term.

PE: I will be delivering PE on a **Monday** this term, and Premier will be delivering lessons on a **Thursday**.

MFL: Our first lesson is to focus on phonetics and the pronunciations of each sound, developing conversations in whether they have a pet, and 'what is the date'.

Library: Every **Thursday** afternoon.

Other foundation subjects: Please see the ALJ creative curriculum overview for more information.

The term ahead promises to be full of exciting learning, new experiences, and opportunities to challenge ourselves. As a class, we will work hard, support one another, and approach each day with curiosity and determination.

We are looking forward to seeing the class make new discoveries, achieve goals they have set themselves and create lasting memories as we journey through Year 5 together.

Miss Howley and Mrs Giles