



Year 5 Curriculum Update Autumn Term 2026



**5VH Mrs Kate Crumpler (phase lead)
5LT Miss Lauren Dangerfeld
5MGL Miss Rachel Spittle**

Themes

Our theme this term is 'On the Move' which is based on our residential trip to Aylmerton and our Geography topic on coastal erosion. During our visit to Norfolk, we will see first-hand the effect of erosion and coastal management methods that we will be studying in class, including the fascinating case study of Happisburgh. We will also take this theme across into other subjects over the term.

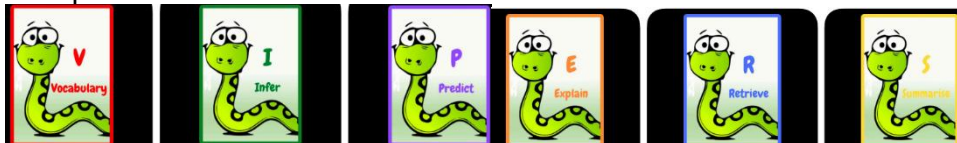
English

The children will have daily English lessons as well as structured reading sessions. In addition to the reading within lessons, there is an expectation for children to be reading for pleasure in their free time and completing the Olympic Reading Challenges, culminating in the prestigious reading hoodie in year 6. Research has shown that if a child reads for 20 minutes a day throughout school, they will typically score in the top 10% of standardised tests. In addition, reading improves children's social skills, self-esteem and creativity. Year 5 children still love to have stories read to them by adults or reading to adults themselves. In English writing lessons, we will be writing for different purposes, using the appropriate skills and language. The children will be learning how to write non chronological reports and explanations as well as continuing their narrative writing skills including dialogue. Spellings follow a particular spelling pattern and will be given out each week on a Friday via Spelling Shed as part of their homework. It is expected that the children will practise these at home, and this will be supported in school throughout the week as we explore the spelling rules and patterns. There will be frequent low stake quizzes to support and monitor their learning. Children will be expected to use joined handwriting in all their subjects and this will be supported and reinforced. The children will need to write in a black or blue pen which they will be asked to bring in themselves in their pencil cases, however pens will be available in school. More information about how English is taught can be found in the curriculum section of the school website.

Guided reading and class novels

This term our class novels will be 'The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates' by Jenny Pearson and 'The Highland Falcon Thief' by M.G Leonard and Sam Sedgman. The children will have three sessions of guided reading a week. One session will usually be linked to these class novels and two will be based on a linked text. This could be linked to the term's theme or another subject that they are studying – this then expands their prior knowledge and supports their learning. The children will come across different question types and explore what effect authors try and create through their choice of language/punctuation. There will also be a focus on children finding evidence in the text to back up their answers. There will be opportunities to read aloud to the class, both as individuals, in small groups and as a whole class.

Our question VIPERS



Mathematics

The children will have daily maths lessons as well as regular sessions focusing on times tables recall building confidence and fluency. The focus for the Autumn term curriculum is primarily on developing the children's knowledge and understanding of place value, reading and writing numbers up to 1 million and the four operations with a greater focus on the formal written methods. We will also spend time looking at fractions, finding equivalents and converting mixed and improper fractions in order to compare, add and subtract them. Each lesson includes practical learning, encouraging the children to develop a range of strategies to solve problems, application of these skills in different situations and a variety of problem solving. The expectation will be for all children to continue to practise multiplication and division facts at home to ensure these are well consolidated so they can be accessed quickly in maths lessons. Times Table Rock Stars will continue to be encouraged and times tables to x12 should be recalled automatically to support the maths learning this year. More information can be found by looking at our calculation policy on the school website.

Science

In Science this term, the children will have two blocks of lessons all about the properties of materials and the changes they undergo. The children will be investigating thermal conductivity, whether all materials are soluble and how to separate solutions and mixtures. They will also have the opportunity to explore a range of reversible and irreversible changes. The children will be learning how to plan, conduct and write up, their investigations with growing independence.

History/Geography

This term we will be focusing on Geography where we will investigate what coasts are, how they are formed, how they are protected and why they are constantly changing. The children will study the processes of erosion and deposition and how these affect the coast, finding out the names of some different coastal formations and finding out what disasters can happen on precarious cliff edges.

Design Technology & Art

The children will have a block of six lessons in art this term. We will be looking at the work of the artist David McEown creating our own pieces using water colour to explore different techniques of mixing colours and blending. We also look at different ways to create perspective in art culminating in a final piece applying their chosen skills.

Alongside art, the children will also complete a D&T block where they will have the opportunity to plan and make their own savoury muffin. The children will taste test different ingredients to adapt their own recipe to then prepare and bake their muffin, evaluating their final product.

Music

The children will have a weekly music lesson in the first half term either with their class teacher or with Mrs Vincent. The focus for this term will be on music production exploring an online Digital Audio Studio. During this unit children will plan and write a 'spooky story' arranging and mixing their own composition.

PE

The children will have two PE lessons per week. These lessons will either be taught by our PE coaches or by the class teacher. In the first half of the Autumn term, the focus will be on netball skills and in the second half of the term hockey. The children will also have a weekly lesson in the hall on fundamental skills when they don't have swimming. Swimming will take place on alternate Friday afternoons at Lord Butler. We always need volunteer parents please.

French

The children will have a weekly French lesson taught by their class teacher. We are following the updated curriculum from Language Angels, and the children will be looking at the phonemes i, in, ique, ill, eau, eux, é, and e. We will also be learning how to discuss pets showing ownership, preferences and to use the conjunction 'mais' (but).

PSHE

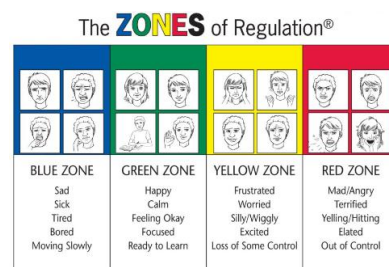
This term, children will be learning about emotions, wellbeing and mental health. They will develop their understanding of a wide range of feelings, including moods and mixed emotions, and learn how to recognise these emotions in themselves and others.

Through discussions and activities, children will explore what can trigger different emotions and learn healthy ways to manage feelings such as worry, stress, boredom, anger and overwhelm. They will discover strategies to help them stay calm, relax and think positively when faced with challenges.

The unit will also help children understand how emotions can affect their thoughts, behaviours and relationships. They will learn about assertiveness, including when and how to express themselves confidently and respectfully.

Finally, children will revisit their Networks of Support, identifying trusted people they can talk to about their feelings and recognising the importance of seeking help when needed.

By the end of the unit, children will have developed greater emotional awareness, resilience and confidence in managing their feelings and supporting their wellbeing.



Computing

This term we will complete a unit of work looking at creating media and the effective use of tools. The children will learn how to use different drawing tools to help them create images. We will use shapes and lines to create 'objects' which can be layered. We will begin experimenting by grouping and duplicating them to support the creation of more complex pieces of work. We will also continue to explore how to stay safe online exploring how to be mindful of others' feelings when online, how to critically evaluate both misinformation and disinformation and consider how some apps and games can take payments and the effects and consequences of this.

Religious Education

This half term the children will complete a 5-lesson block of RE lessons with a philosophy focus where they will explore the question 'Is believing in God reasonable?' The children will consider what makes for a reasonable argument, looking at the arguments for the existence of God made by some Christians as well as arguments from a humanist perspective against the existence of God. Next half term, they will move on to a Human and Social science focus thinking about 'How has belief impacted music and art through history?'

Supporting your child's learning

We believe it is important to work as a team in year 5 and develop a strong home/school relationship to support your child's learning. Below are some areas we look for your support.

- Read with and to your child regularly. Children need to continue to listen to good quality books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to advanced vocabulary and to enable them to hear the correct prosody and intonation. Please sign their reading record.
- Encourage your child to engage with the activities, and work towards, their Reading Olympic challenges in their spare time (details can be found in the back of their reading record)
- Children should regularly log into Spelling Shed and practise at least 10 games a week. Teachers will be monitoring this and providing opportunities in school if there are access issues.
- Practise times tables up to x12 using TT rockstars or 'Hit the Button'.
- Engage your children in discussions about topical issues in the world around them. There are specially produced newspapers for children as well as TV programmes such as 'Newsround', Blue Peter, and documentaries.