



Year 5 Curriculum Update Spring Term 2023



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Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are looking forward to the Spring Term! Thank you for all our lovely cards, gifts and kind wishes – they are greatly appreciated! As we enter the new term, please can we remind you how helpful it is when the children have a well stocked pencil case. Please can you ensure, where possible, children have a pen (blue or black ink is fine as long as it is consistent day to day), pencil and, where possible, a decent glue stick (Pritt stick is definitely the most reliable!) that they can use each day.

Themes

Our theme this term is history based and all about life on the home front during WWII. During this term, the children will explore this topic through a range of primary and secondary resources, exploring these themes through history and English. To start the topic, the children have the opportunity to re-enact what life would be like as an evacuee child during our History off the Page day, which is always a great success. We are also looking forward to a visit from a member of the Royal British Legion who will be talking to us about life as a child on the home front and will be bringing artefacts for the children to explore and discuss.

English

The children will continue to have daily English lessons as well as structured reading sessions. Linking our writing to our history unit, we will be exploring different purposes and genres of writing, using the appropriate skills and language. In order to persuade, we will be writing leaflets to encourage families to either host an evacuee child or to send their children to the country from the city. Following on from our History off the Page Day, the children will also have the opportunity to recount the events by writing a letter home in the role of an evacuee child. Continuing the theme, we will also be writing a third person narrative in response to a stimulus of finding a 'lost suitcase' during a reenacted air raid siren. Linking to our science work on space, we will also be writing an explanation on the phases of the moon.

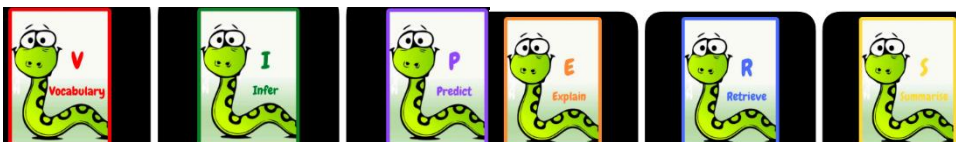
This year we also have an incredible opportunity to take part in this year's Imagine a Story project with the Southbank Centre. This is a collaborative creative writing project where the children will be contributing to a collection of short stories, that will be professionally published.

As part of a continued whole school focus on oracy, we will be continuing the children's journey into public speaking through the Mighty Oak programme of work, with an opportunity to compete for a place in the Moktar Cup competition this term.

Guided reading and class novels

This term our class novels will be 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl and 'Skellig' by David Almond. Please note, there will be an opportunity for you to visit a guided reading session at 9.00am on **Thursday 15th February**. Any resources shared at this session will also be available on Seesaw if you are unable to attend.

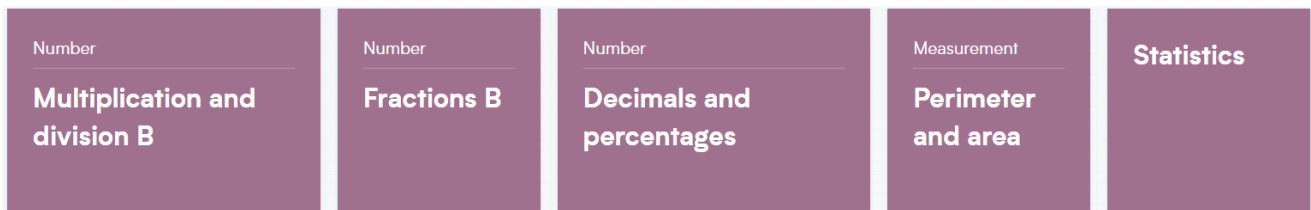
Our question VIPERS for Guided Reading



The children will have four sessions of guided reading a week. Two days will 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.

Mathematics

The children will have daily maths lessons as well as daily number-based maths mastery sessions for building confidence and fluency. The focus for the Spring term curriculum is to give the children a secure understanding of the formal written methods for multiplying 4 digit numbers by both 1 and 2 digit numbers, as well as introducing the written methods for division. We will also continue our work on Fractions, introducing methods to multiply fractions as well as finding fractions of amounts. This is then linked to further work on decimals and percentages where the children use their knowledge of fractions to compare, order and find equivalent decimals, fractions and percentages. 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 the first half term, we will be learning all about forces. We will explore the effect of gravity on unsupported objects and investigate how air, water resistance and friction act between moving surfaces. During this unit, we will also explore how some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

Later in the term we will spend time exploring Earth and Space. We will describe the heliocentric model of the solar system, learning about the scientists that discovered different elements of this and exploring different evidence. We will also further develop their understanding of how the Earth, Moon and planets move in our solar system, explaining day, night and the phases of the moon.

History/Geography

This term we will be focusing on History, exploring Britain on the Homefront during WWII. As mentioned above, this will involve a range of immersive and practical experiences as well as strong cross curricular links to fully engage the children in this fascinating period of time.

Design Technology & Art

The children will have a block of art lessons looking at the work of Alberto Giacometti. We will be focusing on sketching techniques and creating our own tin foil sculptures to then sketch from different viewpoints.

Alongside art, the children will also complete a D&T block where they will have the opportunity to plan, design and sew their own cushions as part of our 'Make Do and Mend' project. **Please can the children all bring in a button-down shirt this term to use in this project.**



Music

The children will have a weekly music lesson in the first half term, either with their class teacher or our specialist music teacher Mrs Brown. The focus for this term will be the genre of Jazz, listening and appraising a range of different pieces. The children will explore the structure of these songs and explore performing and improvising on glockenspiels.

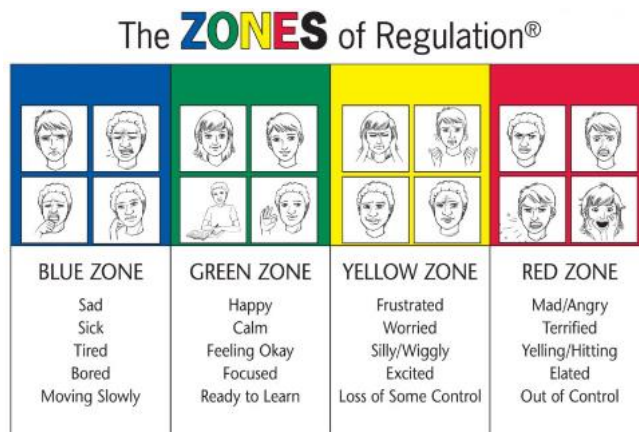
PE

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

PSHE

In these weekly lessons, the children will learn about family and friends. They will also explore different strategies to manage financial capabilities.

We will also regularly refer to the 'Zones of regulation' as a way of helping children explain how they are feeling.



French

The children will have a weekly French lesson taught by their class teacher. This term they will continue to build on and secure the vocabulary already taught and introduce how to discuss different sports, expressing their likes and dislikes. They will also be learning how to give commands for simple movements as well as how to describe how often you do something using a range of different verbs.

Religious Education

This term, the children will complete a block of RE lessons where they will explore the question 'Why should we be good?' The children will consider the teachings of great philosophers about the meaning of life comparing Christian and Buddhist beliefs. In the second half of term the children will explore religious and secular celebrations of Easter and explore the question of 'What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?'

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.

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. Children are welcome to bring and share a book during our 'Fun Reading' sessions each week on a Friday.
- 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 must 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.

