

# Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 5

Spring Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

	Overview of Learning	Ideas for Learning at Home
<p><b>English</b></p> 	<p>During the spring term, Year 5 will be using their reading and understanding of the novel 'Odd and the Frost Giants' by Neil Gaiman to write diary recounts and a character episode. The class will also enjoy reading two further class novels this term. The first of these novels is 'The London Eye Mystery' by Siobhan Dowd. This thrilling adventure story follows the story of Ted, who follows clues with his sister to try to find his cousin, after he goes missing on the London Eye! The children will use this novel to write their own tabloid newspaper report and a story episode with parallel narrators. As well as these pieces of writing, Year 5 will also be using their experiences in York to write a persuasive guide about the city. The second novel Year 5 will be reading this term is 'Orphans of the Tide' by Struan Murray – an exciting fantasy story.</p>	<p>Children should be reading at least three times a week at home. Encourage your child to read a wide range of age-appropriate books to work on developing their vocabulary and understanding. Talk about words they are unfamiliar with and try to use them in a range of contexts.</p> <p>As children get older, they like to read independently. We would still really encourage you to ask your child to read aloud to someone at least once a week to help with their fluency and prosody.</p> <p>Ask your child about the class novel – are they enjoying the book? Who is their favourite character and why? Can they predict what will happen next? It has been lovely to see some of our avid readers bringing in their own copy of the class novel so that they can follow along themselves.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> 	<p>We will be practising short multiplication and division and looking at the most efficient methods to calculate – formal written method, mental strategy, place value, moving digits or using known facts. We will then move on to calculating area from counting squares to using a formula. We will calculate area for rectangles, parallelograms and triangles. Our next topic will be calculating with decimal fractions where we will become more confident multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 using moving digits. Later in the spring term, we will understand what volume is and learn how to calculate the volume of cubes and cuboids. We will then deepen our knowledge of factors, exploring common factors of different numbers. We will extend our knowledge to learn about prime and composite numbers.</p>	<p>It is vital that the children continue to be confident with their times tables. Please encourage them to keep practising at home – TTRockstars or playing dominoes are fun ways to keep times tables fresh! Most weeks, the children's homework will include a short maths task based on the previous week's learning or fact fluency such as times tables or number bonds.</p>

<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<p><b>Life cycles of humans and animals:</b></p> <p>During the spring term, Year 5 will be learning about life processes and reproduction in animals, including humans. The children will recap their knowledge of the main animal groups and their characteristics. They will also compare life cycles of mammals, insects, amphibians and birds. The class will use their skills in working scientifically to make observations, predictions and research.</p>	<p>As we move into spring, children could observe the changes that are happening in the natural world. What evidence of new life can they see? Maybe they could observe what is happening in different habitats, either in your garden or when going out for a walk making links to the work completed on the different life cycles.</p>
<p><b>History</b></p> 	<p>This term, Year 5 will be completing a unit of work exploring '<b>Is it accurate to call the Vikings vicious raiders?</b>' and '<b>Who was the first king of England?</b>'</p> <p>During the topic, the children will learn that the Vikings originated from Scandinavia and began invading Britain in the 8th century seeking Britain's wealth, resources and fertile land. They will explore Viking invasions and why they were initially successful and why the invasion of Lindisfarne was so significant. The pupils will learn that Athelstan was the first recognised King of England, after uniting the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and that the final Viking invasion coincided with the Norman conquest.</p>	<p>Can your child tell you any facts about Viking invasions, the reasons for the attacks, why they were initially successful and why the attack on Lindisfarne was significant?</p> <p>Can your child explain how and why Athelstan became the first recognised King of England?</p>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> 	<p>The next geography topic for Year 5 will explore '<b>Why are rivers important?</b>'.</p> <p>During the topic the children will learn that a river is a moving body of water that drains the land and has three main parts: the upper course, middle course and lower course. They will learn that rivers and their features are formed through erosion, weathering and the collection of water over time. The children will identify key rivers in the North East including the River Tees, River Tyne and River Wear as well as major rivers in the UK. They will also learn that rivers provide water for drinking, irrigation, and transport, but that they can also cause flooding and erosion.</p>	<p>Can your child tell you any facts they have learnt about rivers, their features and how they are formed?</p> <p>Can they locate rivers within the UK on a map?</p>
<p><b>Art &amp; Design</b></p> 	<p>This term, the class will be developing their painting skills, with the theme of Seascapes. The children will be learning how to create texture using paint, use scale to emphasise a feature or structure and will experiment mixing complementary colours. They will then use their skills to create works inspired by the coastal landscape.</p> <p>As part of this topic, the children will explore the artists Claude Monet, Hokusai and Emily Ward.</p>	<p>Children could do some research to find other artists who have been inspired by the coast.</p> <p>Children could create their own coastal artworks at home using any artistic skill they like – painting, drawing, textiles, digital, or even sculpture!</p>
<p><b>Design &amp; Technology</b></p> 	<p>During the spring term, Year 5 will be focusing on cooking. They will follow recipes, make products and then taste and evaluate the products they have made. Through this topic, the children will learn different skills associated with cooking, such as measuring using scales and jugs and mixing ingredients.</p>	<p>Maybe your child could help you to cook at home? It might be fun to find a recipe and make something together!</p>

<p>RE</p> 	<p>The first RE unit Year 5 will be covering during the spring term answers the question <b>‘How is the Qur’an vital to Muslims today?’</b>. The topic will develop the children’s understanding of how Muslims show respect to the Qur’an, how sayings from the Qur’an might be interpreted and how a Muslim’s interpretation of the Qur’an affect how they choose to live.</p> <p>The second RE unit for the spring term answers the question <b>‘How significant is it for Christians to believe that God intended Jesus to die?’</b>. The topic will explore the events of Holy Week including the last supper and Jesus’ betrayal, as well as understanding that Christians believe that Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection were part of God’s plan for salvation.</p>	<p>Can your child tell you any further facts they have learned about Islam and Christianity? Are there any similarities or differences between the two religions?</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>As part of class sessions, the children will further develop swimming &amp; water safety skills delivered by instructors at the Dolphin Centre.</p> <p>During the first half term, the class will be developing their skills in dance and badminton. In dance, the children will be learning about the meaning of locomotor and non-locomotor movements and how these movements can affect a dance routine. They will also be learning about the dance styles of Bollywood and line dance and will have opportunities to choreograph, practise and perform their own routines. In badminton lessons, the class will be learning how to serve, how to control the shuttle over short distances and how to use footwork to move after shots.</p> <p>During the second half term, the class will develop skills in hockey and gymnastics. Gymnastics lessons will focus on partner sequences, including using symmetry, asymmetry and performing counterbalances. Hockey lessons will develop the children’s fast, accurate passes, use of the one-handed dribble to keep possession within a game and marking attackers to stop them from receiving the ball.</p>	<p>Please ensure that your child remembers to bring their swimming kit every Wednesday. Please ensure that your child remembers to bring their PE kit and a water bottle every Thursday. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so appropriate clothing is essential.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>The first topic in PSHE will be <b>‘What makes a community?’</b>. The class will be investigating what it means to be part of a community and what benefits and responsibilities come with being part of a community. They will also be studying and comparing familiar communities with communities in a non-European culture. This links to the Fundamental British Value of mutual respect and tolerance.</p> <p>The second PSHE topic in the spring term will be addressing the topic of <b>‘What are healthy choices?’</b>. The class will talk about how to look after their minds and bodies, as well as learning about the risks associated with some unhealthy choices, including alcohol and drugs. The children will also look at how the way they look after their physical health can also impact their mental health.</p>	<p>Support your child at home by providing a safe and supportive space for them to talk openly about anything we discuss in PSHE, which they may wish to talk about with you.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>This term, the children will be developing their skills in reading music and playing brass instruments. This will be led by the Durham Music Service. They will be listening carefully to each other’s performances and offering helpful feedback. The children will be part of a weekly singing assembly where they will learn about the dimensions and genres of music, learn songs from different genres and songs linked to our school values.</p>	<p>Discuss music with your child when you listen to it, asking about what they can hear. Ask your child to share our songs with you and enjoy them together.</p>

<p><b>Computing</b></p> 	<p>This term in computing lessons, the children will learn about <b>spreadsheets</b> and <b>coding</b>, exploring how to use them and then creating them for a purpose.</p> <p>The spreadsheets unit builds on children's existing spreadsheet knowledge and challenges them to apply it in increasingly realistic situations. Through measurement conversions, graphing, weather analysis, budgeting, and planning a holiday, children learn how spreadsheets support real-world decision-making and problem-solving.</p>	<p>Children will be able to access Purple Mash at home and can try out some of their new skills when they are set for them as a 2Do.</p> <p>Continue to talk to them about online safety, encouraging open conversations about what they access online.</p>
<p><b>Spanish</b></p> 	<p>During the Los Animales (Animals) unit pupils will learn to recognise, recall, remember and spell up to ten animal 10 familiar animals and be introduced to the 1<sup>st</sup> person singular high frequency verb 'I am' in Spanish.</p> <p>During the Sé...* (I know how to...) unit pupils will learn 10 familiar activities that they know how to or do not know how to in Spanish.</p> <p>Pupils will have the knowledge and skills to be able create short and begin to build more interesting and complex sentences including the option of using conjunctions.</p>	<p>Can your child tell you any of the new words or phrases that they have been learning in Spanish?</p> <p>Why not sign up to Duolingo to help your child practise Spanish at home? <a href="https://www.duolingo.com/">https://www.duolingo.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Trips, Experiences and Enrichment</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number Day (Maths)</li> <li>• Volunteering at the church (Enrichment)</li> <li>• Visit to Farooq E Azam Mosque, Stockton (RE)</li> <li>• World Book Day (English)</li> <li>• York (residential)</li> </ul>	

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork** and **Ambition**.  
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.