



ELLEN WILKINSON

Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter 2026-2027 - Quarter 1

Dear Year 5 parents and carers,

Each quarter we will send a newsletter outlining the key learning and coverage in each subject area, along with useful links and ideas of how you can help to support your child's learning at home.

Learning mats, with key knowledge and vocabulary for each of the Foundation subjects, will be shared with your child via their Google classroom account.

Core subjects

English	In reading this quarter, pupils will study <i>Who Let the Gods Out?</i> by Maz Evans, focusing on unlocking word meanings in context and supporting their inferences with evidence from the text. In writing, pupils will explore two key texts: <i>The Lost Thing</i> by Shaun Tan: A story following a boy who finds a strange creature on a beach and tries to find it a home in an indifferent city. Through artwork and storytelling, the book explores themes of belonging and noticing the wonder in everyday life. <i>Robot Girl</i> by Malorie Blackman: A science-fiction story following a girl who discovers her scientist father has built a robot clone of her—only to learn in a twist ending that she is the robot. The text raises questions about artificial intelligence, identity, and humanity. Useful links/ways to support at home: Reading: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4ms6g8 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zqmyw6f Writing: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2yycdm
Maths	Please see below the overview and coverage for Maths for the quarter. The four operations(+, -, ÷, x) number and place value, properties of shapes, fractions, position and directions, decimals, measurements (mass) and measurements (time). Busy Ants newsletters will be shared via Google classroom. Useful links/ways to support at home: https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school https://classroom.freckle.com/rosters
Science	Our unit this quarter is 'Properties and changes of materials' In this unit, pupils test, group and separate everyday materials based on properties like magnetism, solubility, and conductivity. They will also explore the difference between temporary physical changes, like melting and dissolving and permanent chemical reactions.

	Useful links/ways to support at home: How to identify materials – KS2 Science curriculum - BBC Bitesize
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Foundation subjects

History/ Geography	Our unit this quarter is Geography - 'Why is Brazil brilliant?' Pupils will focus on biome features and mapping. Exploring physical and human geography features and comparing London with Rio. Pupils will also understand different layers of a rainforest and the effects of deforestation. Useful links/ways to support at home: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z2kj2v4#zr4qm39 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpr2wnb/revision/2
ART/DT	Our DT unit this term focuses on Bridges. Pupils will investigate various bridge designs—such as beam, arch, and suspension bridges—and explore how structural strength is influenced by shape and materials. Hands-on testing will allow pupils to evaluate how different designs distribute load and withstand force. In Art we will be investigating street art and asking the question is it art or a crime? Useful links/ways to support at home: Strengthening complex structures - BBC Bitesize
Computing	Pupils will be looking at two units this quarter. The first unit - systems and searching, involves pupils developing their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. Pupils consider small-scale systems as well as large-scale systems. They explain the input, output, and process aspects of a variety of different real-world systems. Pupils discover how information is found on the World Wide Web, through learning how search engines work (including how they select and rank results) and what influences searching, and through comparing different search engines. The second unit is computer systems and us. In this unit, learners consider how larger computer systems work. They see how devices and processes are connected, and reflect on how computer systems can help them.
MfL	This quarter in Mandarin, we will be consolidating previous learning, as well as looking at dates in Mandarin and hobbies. Useful links/ways to support at home: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zsbc87h
RE/PSHE	Our units this quarter are What inner forces affect how we think and behave? And 'How is Christmas celebrated around the world?' These units will support pupils to answer the year 5 question; What impact do beliefs have on actions? In PSHE we have two units: 'Being in my world' children think and plan for the year ahead. They will explore their rights and responsibilities as a member of their class, school, wider community and the country they live in. The second unit is 'Celebrating difference'. Children explore culture and cultural differences. They link this to racism, bullying, rumour spreading and name-calling. In addition, children consider happiness regardless of material wealth and respecting other people's cultures. Useful links/ways to support at home: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7hs34j

PE	Our PE units this quarter are netball and tennis and will focus on the skills of: Hand-eye coordination, intercepting, throwing, passing and working as a team. PE days: Monday and Friday On your child's PE day(s), please ensure your child is wearing the correct PE kit, details of which can be found in the school uniform policy.
Music	Our unit is called: Melody and Harmony in music. Children will have the opportunity to: - Listen and respond to music - Compose music - Perform (sing & play an instrument)

Home Learning

Each week your child should get:

Reading:

- Reading should be recorded in your child's home learning book.
- In addition, we encourage you to read stories to your child regularly, and have a healthy reading culture at home, to promote a love of reading. This will also support your child in their writing.
- BugClub is a platform available to all - linked above.

Spellings:

- Ensure opportunities throughout the week for your child to practise their spellings.

Maths practice:

- Your child should complete tasks assigned to them on Freckle and the Times Tables Rock Stars website.

Please speak to your child's class teacher, if you have any questions about how to access any of the school's learning platforms.

**All home learning will be issued on a Friday and collected on a Wednesday.
Other subject tasks will be set at the discretion of the class teacher.**

If you find anything out, come across an exciting book or find a great website, please let us know so we can pass the information on to all our other parents.

Many thanks for your help and support.

Kind regards,
Mrs Higgins & Ms Patel