



Curriculum Letter for Year 5 - Spring 1 2024

General Information

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to some exciting topics and events this half term. Thank you for the books gifted for the Twelve Books of Christmas. They are lovely additions to our classroom libraries.

Curriculum

Maths: This half term we will focus on reading, writing, and comparing decimals and rounding decimals to the nearest whole number. The pupils will also be representing, identifying, naming, writing, ordering and compare fractions. After that, we will be classifying, comparing, and ordering angles. We end the half term measuring angles with a protractor and using angle facts to calculate missing angles.

English: We start with *Curiosity* by Markus Motum, which explores the themes of exploration and discovery and links to our units in Art, French and Science. We will use cohesive devices to expand and explain, use the passive voice and write a short news report. Finally, students will draw together their learning to write an expanded explanation text.

After this, to link our historical learning on the Kingdom of Benin we will study *Children of the Benin Kingdom* by Dinah Orji. The students will compare characters, write letters and diary entries in role and offer advice. Throughout, children will be gathering information and building the skills towards writing a non-chronological report on the Kingdom of Benin.

Science: Our unit this half term is '*Out of this world*'. We start this unit with a visit from a mobile planetarium. The children learn about space, starting with the Solar System. Next, they will look at how ideas about space have changed over time before they explore what causes us to experience night and day on Earth.

History: Our History unit this half term is a study of *The Kingdom of Benin 1500-1750*. In this unit, we will be learning how the Kingdom was ruled, it's growth and decline. To learn about and see the real Benin artefacts and consolidate our learning from this unit, we will be visiting the wonderful *Benin Bronzes* at the British Museum.

Art: In Art, we will be enhancing our drawing skills, looking at *retro-futurism* (a contemporary look at futuristic art) and ending with a mix of print and drawing. We will study space imagery and how to make drawing decisions. After that we will create a print inspired by Dutch artist *Teis Albers*, develop ideas in our sketch books and finally revise our ideas to make a final piece.

RE: We will be learning about Sikhism by studying the question, 'How did the first five Sikh Gurus shaped Sikhism?' This involves looking at how Sikhism developed with each Guru, what practices today are influenced by the teachings of the Gurus and the importance of equality in Sikhism.

PSHE: In this half term we will begin the unit '*Family and Relationships*'. In this, we will describe what qualities a good friend should have and recognise that friendships have ups and downs. We will then move on to marriages and families and look how these have changed.

French: Following the Space theme in Art, English and Science, we are learning about the planets. Students will name and label a map of the Solar System in French. They will learn new grammar rules using French conjunctions and adjectives. After that we will learn how to ask and answer key questions in French.



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PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for Thursdays with Coach Kymani. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have indoor PE on Tuesdays. Indoor PE kits will stay in school.

Reading and Spellings

Reading at home: Children may read a book from home or school. Their reading record must be bought home daily and acknowledged by an adult at home weekly.

Reading at school: Children may pick a book from the class selection or from home. Reading records should be updated daily by the pupil and will be checked by staff weekly.

Spellings: We will be looking at a different spelling rule weekly. This may be reinforced through our spelling homework. The statutory spellings for Y5 and 6 have been uploaded to Teams. These will be practised and used in writing throughout the year.

Homework

Homework will be set every Friday on *Teams* and is due in the following Wednesday. Children may also be set homework on MyMaths or Purple Mash – this will be indicated on the work set on *Teams*.

Key Dates

Children's Mental Health Week	Monday 5 th February
British Museum	Tuesday 6 th February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 th February
Half term	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February
Inset Day	Monday 19 th February. SCHOOL CLOSED