

Curriculum Letter for Year 5 - Summer Term 1 2024

General Information

Welcome back after the Easter Holiday; we hope you have all had the chance to relax and recharge as a family. We have an exciting term ahead of us as we move into our final term in Year 5. This half term, we will be setting a history project linking to our unit on Journeys and our class reading book, 'Windrush Child'. The children will have a month to create a presentation about a family member who made a notable journey. More information will follow on Teams. *Knowledge Organisers* for History, French and Science have been uploaded onto Files on Teams. Please look at these with your children.

Attendance is crucial – please ensure your child is at school on time every day.

Curriculum

Maths: This half term, we will focus on converting units of measure. This will involve converting between metric units of length, mass and capacity and units of time. Later in the term, we will focus on calculating with whole numbers and decimals. This will include formal written strategies to add, subtract and multiply numbers involving decimals and multiplying and dividing decimal numbers by ten, 100 and 1,000.

English: We will start the half term by reading and analysing *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah. The children will examine historical sources, to consider the motivations of those coming to the UK. They will write an airmail letter in role, as the main character and examine and perform the poem *Windrush Child* by John Agard, before writing their own version. The sequence of learning culminates in children writing a pitch to the local council to erect a new monument to commemorate the Windrush generation.

Next, we will use the film and text of Shaun Tan's '*The Lost Thing*'. Initially, the children will make predictions about its content. They will then engage with the story in order to retell the main events to one another. This will lead to a series of innovations upon the story structure, where children will create their own 'lost things' narrative.

History: In our history unit, entitled *Journeys: What makes people go on a journey?* we will be exploring the theme of migration, specifically immigration and emigration. Our unit will focus on examining the reasons why people undertake journeys, and how these journeys can be motivated by "push" and "pull" factors, such as economic opportunity or political instability and the experiences of those who make these journeys. Throughout our unit, we will examine the similarities and differences between these journeys, paying particular attention to the prejudice and inequalities that some people faced in their new lives.

Science: We are studying the *Circle of life* for some plants and animals. We start off by looking at plant reproduction and move on to amphibian, bird and insect life cycles: how they are similar and different. After that, we will discover why animals lay so many eggs and explore unusual life cycles in the animal kingdom. Finally, we will finish by researching endangered animals and discuss animal conservationists.

RE: In this half term's RE unit, children will continue to delve into the fascinating history of **Sikhism** by exploring the lives and teachings of the last 5 gurus. They will learn about the challenges and triumphs each guru faced during their lifetime, as well as the profound impact they had on Sikhism's evolution. By the end of the unit children will not only have a greater appreciation of the contributions of these gurus, but also a deeper understanding of the central tenets of Sikhism, including the importance of community, service, and equality.

PSHE: This half term, children will develop their understanding of *Economic Wellbeing*. In this unit they will learn how to prioritise needs over wants, manage a weekly budget, understand the responsibilities and consequences of borrowing and loaning. They will also, recognise the risks and considerations associated with spending money online, explain why workplace stereotyping needs to be challenged and describe how interests and skills align with future careers.

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French: This half term we will learn how to say the days of the week and months of the year. After that we will revise our numbers and learn the French for the numbers 21-31. Next, we will explore how to identify the date and tell when our birthday is.

Art: The children will be developing their art skills this term in our *Sculpture and 3D unit*. We will understand how installation art is created as a medium for communicating a message, learning about the features of this art genre. Our final product will be a 3D cardboard piece in the style of the Benin Bronzes, which we will use to create our own installation.

Music: In the first half of the summer term, we will be using ***Musical Explorer*** to compose our own music using different tempos and notation.

Class Reads: *Windrush Child* by Benjamin Zephaniah and *The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan

PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for Thursdays with Coach. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have Indoor PE on Tuesdays, which will now be athletics. The children will need trainers for this. Indoor PE kits will stay in school.

Reading and Spellings

It is an expectation that children read every day.

Reading – children may pick a book from the class selection and are free to change this or pupils may wish to bring a book from home. Reading record books will continue to be checked by staff weekly.

Guided Reading texts will be uploaded onto Files on Teams for you to review our reading material at home.

Spellings:

This may be reinforced through our spelling homework.

Homework

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

Key Dates

Class Photograph	Monday 29 th April
Polling Day (school closed)	Thursday 2 nd May
Bank Holiday (school closed)	Monday 6 th May
Scholastic Book Fair	Monday 13 th - Thursday 16 th May
PTA School Disco	Friday 17 th May
National Numeracy Day	Wednesday 22 nd May
Half Term	Monday 27th - Friday 31st May
Sports Day	Wednesday 26 th June (second date 3 rd July)
Visit from Enfield Caribbean Association	Date TBC