

Curriculum Letter – Year 5



Autumn 2026

Welcome to Year 5! We hope that you have all had a fantastic summer break. It has been so lovely to see the children again and to hear all about what they have been up to – they look so grown up! They have already really impressed us with how quickly and enthusiastically they've settled back into school life and we are looking forward to an exciting and challenging year together. The children are looking forward to exploring Anglo - Saxon life and cultures throughout English and the wider curriculum. Later on in the term, our focus will turn to how the Viking and Anglo - Saxon periods overlapped and the conflicts this transition created within the United Kingdom.

Our curriculum:

Subject	Topic/skills
English	The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe (non-chronological report and narrative) The Legend of Gelert Persuasive advert linked to Christmas
Mathematics	Place value – Numbers to 1, 000, 000 Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division Fractions
Science	Properties and changes of materials. (This is a longer unit which we will cover over two half terms)
Computing	Online Safety – Managing online information Sound – Radio Podcast
History	Anglo-Saxons The Vikings
RE	Christianity – Why is it sometimes difficult to do the right thing? Islam – Why is the Quran important to Muslims?
PE/Games	Gymnastics, athletics and invasion games.
Art Design & Technology	Sculpture and 3D - Interactive installation Electrical systems – Wobblebots
PHSE	My healthy self - How can I take care of my mind and body? Connecting with others – What helps us feel safe and included?

Homework



Year 5 children should be reading for at least 15 minutes each night, learning their weekly spellings and completing one piece of maths homework per week. Spellings will be **sent home on a Thursday, to be tested the following Thursday**. Reading will be checked frequently in our new reading record books. These were sent home last week and have replaced Boom Reader, the online system we used last year. We are aware that everyone is busy, but would really appreciate your support with signing these so that we can monitor your child's progress in reading. Homework will be a maths activity/task linked to what we have been doing that week in class. This will help to prepare the children for Year 6 and develop their independence ready for secondary school. **Maths homework will be set on a Wednesday to be returned the following Wednesday.**

Children are expected to change their own books and write down the title of the book in their reading record book. They will be given the opportunity to do this daily. They also need to record their new book with the Teaching Assistant to ensure they read a variety of books within the stage they are on. Children who read and have their reading record signed at least three times a week will be entered into our class reading raffle. At the end of each half term, four names will be picked from the raffle and these children will be able to choose a prize.

Occasionally, children will be asked to do some research in preparation for a lesson. If you know that you will struggle to do this at home, please let us know.

Communication:

If you need to contact us, please continue to use Class Dojo to send us a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. If you would like to speak to us face-to-face about anything, please phone the office and we will arrange an appointment with you.

Alternatively, we are on the playground at the end of the school day 😊

Any appointments e.g. doctors/dentist need to be communicated to the school office please as opposed to on Class Dojo. We are always happy to help and if there are any issues or concerns, we would encourage you to speak to us so that we can help and resolve these straight away.

PE/Games Timetable

P.E will be on a **Tuesday and Thursday** this year. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit and a waterproof coat in school as we will try our best to get outside even if it is a little wet! Please ensure that no jewellery is worn on PE days for health and safety reasons.



Year 5 PALs



All children in Year 5 will have the opportunity to take part in PALs training later in September. This gives Year 5 children a sense of responsibility before their transition into Year 6 next year. The training consists of teaching the children how to lead games and activities for the younger children within school. They will then be added to a rota once a week whereby they will eat their lunch early and then join the infants on their yard to lead their games and play. This is an exciting opportunity which lots of the children have asked us about already!

School rules, Values and Aspire Skills

Throughout the year we will be encouraging the children to recognise the importance of each of our Balshaw Lane Values and Aspire Skills. We will be discussing these in assemblies and identifying opportunities to apply them in different situations. Throughout the year, our Star of the Week certificate will be linked to these.

Last week, we also reintroduced our school rules of being **READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE**. The children looked different examples and sorted them under the correct heading. This was a good reminder and the children are clear of our expectations of them as we start the new school year.

Term	Character Value	Aspire Skills
Autumn 1	Respect	Independence
Autumn 2	Honesty	Self-belief
Spring 1	Gratitude	Self-motivation
Spring 2	Kindness	Resilience and determination
Summer 1	Inclusivity	Communication and team work
Summer 2	Humility	Curiosity

**We are really looking forward to working with
you all again this year. Thank you for your support.**

Mrs Ward and Mrs Gibirdi