

# Autumn Term Year 5

## Maths

In Autumn term, Year 5 pupils begin by strengthening their understanding of place value with numbers up to one million. They then develop efficient strategies for written and mental methods in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. In multiplication and division, they focus on factors, multiples, and formal written methods. During fractions, pupils explore equivalent fractions, compare and order them, and begin to add and subtract with the same denominator.

## English

This term, children will write a range of Viking-inspired stories, including heroic tales, mysteries, and quests. They will focus on using the five-part story structure, ambitious vocabulary, and accurate grammar and punctuation, all linked to the theme *Raiders*.

## Science

In Autumn term, pupils study the properties and changes of materials, investigating reversible and irreversible changes such as dissolving, mixing, and burning, and comparing materials based on properties like conductivity and solubility. In the Changing Oceans unit, pupils explore ocean environments, the impact of human activity, and how climate change and pollution affect marine life and global systems.

## RE

In Year 5 RE, pupils follow the SAT RE curriculum by exploring key questions through different disciplinary lenses. In Autumn 1, they consider “*Is believing in God reasonable?*”, reflecting on a range of viewpoints and developing critical thinking around faith, belief, and evidence. For Autumn 2 the pupils investigate how belief in Christianity and Islam has influenced music and art throughout history, gaining insight into how religious expression shapes culture and identity across time.

## Raiders

Building on their Year 3 work on the Anglo-Saxons, children will now use their more advanced skills to deepen their understanding in Year 5. They will explore the impact of both the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings on Britain—who they were, why they came, and how they lived, fought, and settled. Through history, geography, English, and art, pupils will discover how these invaders shaped early British life.

## Art & DT

For Autumn 1 Art, pupils develop their drawing and sketching skills by exploring line, tone, texture, and proportion. They practise using different tools and techniques to create depth and detail, while studying the work of artists to inspire and refine their own style.

In design and technology, pupils learn how to design, build, and reinforce structures to make them strong and stable. They explore different materials and joining techniques, test their ideas through models, and apply their understanding of forces and construction to create purposeful, durable products.

## MFL - Spanish

In Year 5 Autumn Spanish, pupils build on their language skills using the Languagenut scheme by learning useful everyday phrases to support conversation and communication. They also expand their vocabulary around food, learning to describe meals, express preferences, and take part in simple role-play scenarios such as ordering in a café.

## Music

In Year 5 music, pupils follow the Charanga scheme to build their musical understanding through listening, singing, and composing. In Unit 1, they explore musical notation, rhythm, and melody while performing and improvising. In Unit 2, they focus on expressing feelings through music, developing confidence in using dynamics, tempo, and pitch to convey mood and meaning.

## PE

In Year 5 PE, pupils develop control, coordination, and stamina through movement and athletics, focusing on running, jumping, and throwing techniques to improve performance. In dance, they explore rhythm, timing, and expression by creating and performing sequences, often linked to themes or music, building confidence, creativity, and teamwork.

## PSHE

In Year 5 PSHE, pupils begin the *myHappyMind* curriculum with Meet Your Brain, building on their knowledge of how the brain works by exploring how hormones like dopamine and cortisol affect focus, stress, and motivation. In Celebrate, they reflect on their individual character strengths in more depth, understanding how these contribute to their personal growth, resilience, and positive relationships.

## Humanities

In the autumn term of Year 5, pupils study the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England. They explore who the invaders were, why they came, and how they settled, focusing on key events, figures, and battles. Children will be critical of the sources they use, applying developed historical skills to question bias and trustworthiness. Through this, pupils gain a deeper understanding of how these groups shaped early British history and influenced culture, language, and law.

## Computing

In Autumn 1 computing, pupils begin by exploring computing systems and networks, learning how information is searched, stored, and shared across digital systems. They develop their understanding of how search engines work and how to use them effectively. In Autumn 2, the creating media unit, pupils plan, record, and edit videos, learning key skills such as camera angles, audio control, and video sequencing to produce a polished digital product.

# Spring Term Year 5

## Maths

In Spring term, pupils build on their multiplication and division skills by learning formal methods and applying them to multi-step problems. In Fractions B, they deepen their understanding by multiplying unit and non-unit fractions and finding fractions of amounts. They then move on to decimals and percentages, making links between the two and solving problems involving equivalence. Pupils also calculate perimeter and area of rectilinear shapes and composite figures, and interpret data using line graphs and tables in the statistics unit.

## English

In English this term, the children will explore natural disasters through adventure stories, non-fiction texts, and poetry. They will focus on developing narrative writing, using rich vocabulary, varied sentence structures, and accurate punctuation.

## Science

In Year 5 science, pupils learn about animals including humans by exploring human development, life cycles, and the changes that occur as we grow older. They also study other living things, comparing life cycles across mammals, birds, insects, and amphibians, and exploring reproduction in both plants and animals. Through observation and research, pupils develop a deeper understanding of the diversity and complexity of life processes.

## RE

During Spring term, pupils explore by asking “*Why should we be good?*” and examining what great philosophers have taught about the meaning of life and moral behaviour. They reflect on ideas from different traditions and thinkers, such as Aristotle and religious teachings, to consider how people decide what is right and wrong, and how beliefs influence the choices we make.

## Spring Term Theme

### Extreme Earth

This geography-led theme explores natural disasters like volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Through cross-curricular links, children will investigate how these powerful forces shape our planet.

## Art & DT

In Spring 1 for art, pupils develop their painting skills by exploring colour theory, mixing techniques, and the use of brushwork to create texture and mood. They study the styles of different artists and apply this knowledge to create their own expressive and detailed paintings.

In Spring 2 design and technology, pupils develop their understanding of food and nutrition by learning about healthy eating, seasonal ingredients, and the origins of food. They plan and prepare a savoury dish, building practical cooking skills such as measuring, chopping, and combining ingredients safely and hygienically.

## MFL - Spanish

In Spring term - pupils use the Languagenut scheme to learn vocabulary related to the home, including rooms and household items. They also explore the themes of music and celebrations, gaining language to talk about instruments, favourite songs, and cultural festivals, helping them build confidence and cultural awareness through engaging contexts.

## Music

In Spring learning for music, pupils continue to follow the Charanga scheme to deepen their skills in composition and performance. In Unit 3, they work collaboratively to compose their own pieces using rhythm, pitch, and structure. In Unit 4, they explore how music can communicate different emotions, using musical elements to express feelings and enhance their performances.

## PE

In Year 5 PE, pupils develop teamwork, strategy, and coordination through netball and other invasion games, learning how to attack, defend, and apply tactics in competitive situations. They also take part in orienteering, building map-reading and problem-solving skills. In health and fitness, pupils learn about the benefits of physical activity and how to improve their strength, flexibility, and endurance through targeted exercises.

## PSHE

In Spring term PSHE, pupils continue the *myHappyMind* curriculum with Appreciate, where they develop a deeper understanding of gratitude and how it supports emotional wellbeing and positive thinking. In Relate, they build on their relationship skills by exploring how to use their strengths to support others, practise empathy, and respond to more complex social situations with kindness and respect.

## Humanities

In Spring term of Year 5 geography, pupils study global and regional weather patterns, learning how climate varies around the world and affects different environments. They also explore extreme natural events such as volcanoes and earthquakes, investigating their causes, effects, and how people adapt to and respond to these powerful forces of nature.

## Computing

In Spring 1, pupils deepen their programming skills by exploring selection in physical computing. They use condition-based logic to control outputs like lights or motors through programmable devices.

Spring 2 - the data and information unit - pupils learn how to organise and search data using flat-file databases, developing their ability to structure information and draw conclusions from data sets.

# Summer Term Year 5

## Maths

In Summer term, In Year 5, following the White Rose scheme, pupils explore properties of 2D and 3D shapes, measure angles, and describe position using coordinates and reflections. They deepen their understanding of decimals and negative numbers in context, convert between units of measure, and are introduced to volume through estimation and comparison.

## English

This term, children will be inspired by space-themed texts to write a variety of imaginative stories, diaries, reports, and biographies. They will focus on developing narrative structure, expanding vocabulary, and applying accurate grammar and punctuation across all writing tasks.

## Science

In Year 5 science, pupils explore the topic of forces, investigating gravity, air resistance, water resistance, and friction through practical experiments and problem-solving. They also study Earth and space, learning about the movement of the Earth, Moon, and planets, the solar system, and how day and night occur. These topics help pupils build a solid understanding of physical processes in the world around them and beyond.

## RE

In Year 5 RE, pupils continue the SAT RE curriculum by exploring key theological concepts. In Summer 1, they examine *“What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?”*, learning how this core belief shapes Christian identity, worship, and hope.

In Summer 2 they investigate *“How do Hindus make sense of the world?”*, exploring key Hindu beliefs such as karma, dharma, and the cycle of life, and how these influence daily life and worldview.

## Summer Term Theme

# Space

This term, children will explore the wonders of space, including the solar system, moon landings, and the science of planets and stars. Through cross-curricular links with science, English, art, and computing, pupils will investigate key questions about our universe and imagine life beyond Earth.

## PSHE

In Year 5, pupils complete the *myHappymind* curriculum with the Engage module, where they focus on setting ambitious yet realistic goals and understanding how effort, planning, and perseverance lead to success. They explore how to stay motivated, overcome setbacks, and use their strengths to achieve both individual and group goals.

## MFL - Spanish

In Summer term - pupils use the *Languagenut* scheme to learn key vocabulary and phrases related to travel and daily routines, focusing on how to describe their journey to school. They also explore language linked to seasons and holidays, enabling them to talk about weather, seasonal activities, and celebrations, while developing their speaking, listening, and reading skills in meaningful contexts.

## Humanities

In Summer 2, pupils develop advanced map and fieldwork skills by learning to read six-figure grid references and use digital mapping tools. They practise interpreting maps, identifying key features, and applying their skills in real-world contexts.

This term, children will explore the impact of The Blitz, learning key dates and how we use historical sources—while also spotting bias and propaganda. They’ll then discover why Harlow was created after WW2, meet its designer Sir Frederick Gibberd, and explore what made the town special.

## PE

In Year 5 PE, pupils develop skills in striking and fielding through sports such as cricket, focusing on batting, bowling, catching, and teamwork. They also build on their running, jumping, and throwing techniques in preparation for sports day, aiming to improve personal performance and compete with others. These activities support coordination, strategic thinking, and overall physical fitness.

## Art & DT

In Year 5 Summer 1 for art, pupils explore sculpture and collage by experimenting with different materials and techniques to create 3D forms and layered compositions. They learn how to plan, shape, and combine elements to express ideas, and take inspiration from artists and cultural art to develop their own creative work.

In Summer 2 design and technology, pupils learn about mechanical systems by designing and building a model fairground ride. They explore how cams, pulleys, and gears create movement, apply their knowledge to solve design challenges, and evaluate their finished product for function and effectiveness.

## Music

In Year 5 music, pupils use the *Charanga* scheme to explore music as a tool for expression and motivation in Unit 5. In Unit 6, they apply their skills in a group performance, showcasing their understanding of rhythm, melody, and dynamics with confidence.

## Computing

In Summer 1 computing, pupils explore digital design by creating vector graphics, learning how to use shapes, layers, and tools to create precise and scalable images. In Programming B, they apply their knowledge of selection by designing and coding interactive quizzes, using logical reasoning to create question sequences and control outcomes based on user input.