



## Year 5



### One World...Once Chance...

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and, more importantly, a lovely break.

As we step into the new year, we begin lots of exciting topics, full of opportunities for growth and discovery. I am looking forward to watching Year 5 build their resilience and thrive as they step up and strive for their best. Our focus this term is the question, "Where is our place in the world today?".

Please reach out if you have any questions, I look forward to supporting the children through this term - Miss Rayton

**RE** This term, Year 5 will learn about the Ten Commandments as guidance for living in respect of God and others and reflect on being made in God's image. Pupils will study King David—chosen by God, anointed by Samuel, and remembered through the psalms—along with God's covenant and promise of an everlasting kingdom fulfilled in Jesus. They will also reflect on the Beatitudes, which reveal blessings in God's kingdom, and the Our Father, a prayer of petition for God and ourselves.

**Homework** is set on a Wednesday and will be due in the following Monday. 2 pieces will be set, 1 Comprehension and 1 Maths. Sometimes they will be set a project instead.

Daily Reading is still very important **even for fluent readers**. Please encourage your children to read often, ask to hear them read and talk to them about the book that they are reading. I have a list of general comprehension questions if required.

**PE** – In Spring 1, pupils will develop their teamwork and tactical skills through netball and prepare for a dance festival with an external dance teacher, focusing on creativity and performance. In Spring 2, they will work with Mr Cartmell to improve their tennis techniques and build problem-solving and navigation skills through orienteering activities.

**PSHE** - Through our PSHE topic, Created to Love Others, we will be learning more about our bodies, and reflecting on times when it is right to say 'no'. We will be talking about things that can impact our lifestyle, such as drugs and alcohol. We will also be exploring how to develop healthy relationships with technology and how to protect our identity online.

**French** - This term, we will continue to build on our French vocabulary and basic conversational language.

**As readers**, we'll embark on an exciting journey, set in the vibrant Amazon rainforest. As a class, we will be reading 'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson. The story follows Maia, a courageous young girl, as she discovers new friendships, overcomes challenges and learns to embrace adventure. We will also be reading 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry, to further our Geographical knowledge and to act as a stimulus for some more amazing writing. In English lessons, we will develop our comprehension skills further.

**As writers**, we will be exploring different types of writing: non-chronological reports, diaries, poetry, characterising speech, instructions, narrative, science experiment planning and comprehension work.

We are hoping to give out some more pen licenses, this term. This will require consistency in handwriting/ presentation. The children have worked so hard on this, during the Autumn term, and I am very impressed with their progress so far.

**As mathematicians**, we will continue to focus on mastering doubling / halving within 100 and will continue mastering all times tables. At home and at school, TTRS must be used as ongoing practice.

In Maths lessons, we will further our knowledge of number work (addition/subtraction and multiplication/division), calculations including fractions, problem solving, mixed number-improper fractions, equivalent fractions and fractions-decimals-percentages.

**As scientists**, we will explore **Space**, learning about the Solar System, orbiting planets, and how the Earth, Sun, and Moon move in relation to each other. We will investigate shadows, day length, and why we experience day and night. Later in the term, the focus will shift to **Materials**, where we will examine the properties of different materials and their uses.

**As artists and designers**, we will take inspiration from the vibrant world of rainforest animals, using bold colours and textures to create sketches and mixed-media projects that capture the beauty of the rainforest. Also, we will explore '**Threads of the Rainforest**', developing embroidery skills to produce creative textile pieces.

**As geographers**, we will investigate the distribution of rainforests across the world and their vital role in the global ecosystem. We will explore different biomes and tropics, the unique animals and people who live there, and the importance of these habitats. The unit will also focus on the impact of human activity, including deforestation and its dangers, understanding why protecting rainforests is essential for our planet.

**As musicians**, pupils will begin exploring songs for special occasions from different times, places, and cultures. We will learn songs linked to Hanukkah and Chinese New Year, consolidating our understanding of pentatonic music. In Spring 2, pupils will build on prior learning about ragtime and slave music as they explore jazz and swing. We will learn about the origins of these styles and develop improvisation skills, creating our own swing grooves.