



Newsletter

Spring Term



Our Topic: Rivers, The Water Cycle and Renewable Energy

Our theme this half term is 'Rivers, The Water Cycle and Renewable Energy'. Throughout the term, we will be working to answer the question '**How have humans used and adapted the Earth's natural resources and how has it impacted life on Earth?**' We will investigate **physical, human and environmental geography** within this unit to deepen our understanding of the world we live in. During this topic we will be working on our map skills to locate cities in the UK and countries in Europe, identifying physical geography features, investigating human geography and then the positive and negative impact of humans on the environment.

To enrich our learning this term, we have a trip to Carsington Waters, where we will deepen our understanding of the water cycle and strengthen our map skills—watch this space as I am still in the process of finalising, but the trip will hopefully take place in mid-March. Last year, Severn Trent worked with Year 5 to explain how water is used and how we can help the planet, and we are hoping to get them in again this year.

Any research or home learning to support our learning in school is always valuable and we would love to add even more to our display! One of the children has already brought in a fabulous Water Cycle display that she made at home.



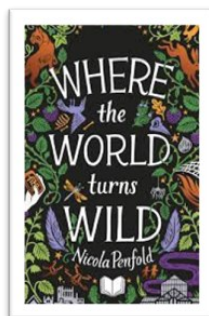
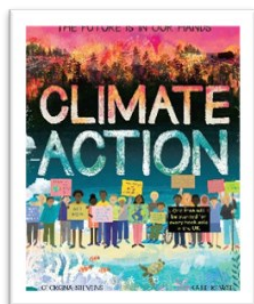
English: Writing

Our English book this half term is Climate Action. This is a Non-Fiction book that is based around global warming and how we can all save our planet. From this the children will be writing a Non-Chronological report.

Please encourage your child to research climate change and global warming at home as this will support their reports.

Throughout the term, we will be looking at the book 'Where the World Turns Wild' which we are studying this half term in Novel Study and in English next half term. We will also be meeting Nicola Penfold on Teams to ask her questions about being an author, what inspired her to write 'Where the World Turns Wild' and share our own writing with her.

We are having a big whole school push on driving the highest possible standards of presentation, so please keep focusing on handwriting at home as it makes a huge difference.



English: Reading & Novel Study

Please continue to support your child at home by listening to your child read at least four times a week. To have the greatest impact while reading with your child, please ask them questions about the characters, plot and any key information. This should be recorded in their reading diary, which Mrs Wagstaff checks regularly.



In Novel Study this term, we are focusing on the VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explaining, Retrieval and Summarising). Throughout the lessons, we encourage the children to make predictions about what could happen next; infer how the characters feel and why; summarise what has happened so far; and explain the meaning of new words. We will be reading the fantastic 'Where the World Turns Wild' during Novel Study, which links to our Geography project this term.

Next half term, we will be diving into 'The House with Chicken Legs' in Novel Study. This is an exciting, adventure story, which I am sure the children will love! I know it's one of Miss Depledge's favourites.

Maths

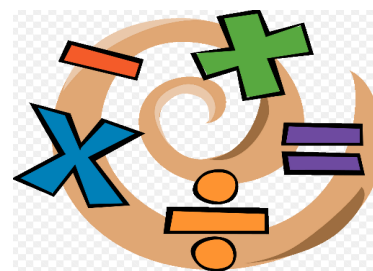
The great thing about our Maths work is that you can follow along at home. There's a huge amount of research pointing to the benefits of 'pre-teaching' - so having a quick look at a lesson or unit with your child before we cover it in class could really help to develop your child's knowledge and confidence.

Likewise, if your child has struggled with a lesson, you could always have another look together at home. Just click the link below.

[Free KS2 Maths teaching resources | Y3, 4, 5, & 6 | Page 1 of 5 | Oak National Academy](#)

This term we are covering units 54 (Understand the Concept of Area), 55 (Link Area of Rectangles to Multiplication), 56 (Compare and Describe Measurements Using Knowledge of Multiplication and Division), 57 (Calculating With Decimal Fractions) and 58 (Understand the Concept of Volume). I'm always happy to let you know exactly where we are—just ask!

As always, please work on the times tables at home and encourage your child to access TTRockstars, as having a secure recall of time table facts supports many areas of Maths.



Science

In science this term, we will be studying 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. We will be looking at the properties of different materials and how different materials are suitable for their purpose. We will be investigating irreversible and reversible changes.

Art

In art this half term, we will be focusing on water colour painting in the style of Claude Monet.

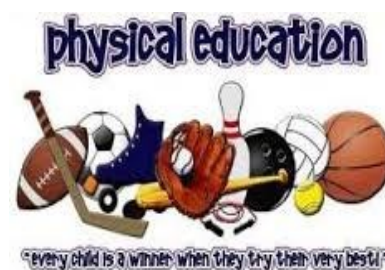


PE

Year 5 PE is on a Monday and Wednesday.

However, as weather can affect the timetables please ensure PE kits are always in school and taken home on a Friday.

As the weather is now a lot colder, please pack a warmer outdoor kit as well as an indoor kit.



Dates For Your Diary

PE: Every Monday and Wednesday

Break up for Half Term:

Friday, 13th February 2026

Back to school after Half Term:

Monday 23rd February 2026



Homework

Times tables: Please practise the times table that your child is working on. We are aiming for fast recall of times tables in Year 5, including divisions. Also encourage them to use TT Rockstars. If they need their password sending home again, please remind them to ask.

Spellings: Your child will bring home spellings each week based around a spelling rule. Please recap the spelling rule so they are able to apply the rule to any spellings that follow the rule. We will have a quick spelling test on a Monday morning, to test knowledge of the words sent home the week before.

Reading: Your child will bring home their reading book and diary each day. Please listen to them read a minimum of four times a week. Please ask questions about the book, character and about new vocabulary after they have read. This will positively impact on their ability. Any questions about recommended books or reading please ask as reading has huge focus within the classroom. Please fill in the diary when you have listened to them read and this will be checked at the end of the week.

Year 5 Teaching Team

Mr Tilstone - Teacher

Mrs Wagstaff - Teaching Assistant

Class DoJo

Finally, a quick word to thank you with your support in trialling ClassDojo. I've had some great feedback, and I'm finding it a highly useful two-way communication tool, which we will continue to use in Year 5 rather than Teams.