

Year 5 Curriculum Letter – Autumn 2 2025



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to our second half term in year 5.

This half term includes the following academy events and deeper days:

- November: Count Your Carbon Month
- 11th November: Remembrance Day
- 12th November: Positive Noticing Day
- 14th November: Children in Need
- 17th -21st November: Anti bullying week
- 21st November: Anti-bullying workshop
- 5th December: PTA Christmas Fair
- 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
- 3rd December: Year 5 Christmas Performance 14:00

PE day and PE Kit

Our PE day is on a Thursday. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the correct PE uniform and with earrings removed or covered. Variations to PE uniform will be challenged, including footwear.

Labelled belongings

Please remember to label items including lunch boxes and bags (locker size – small). Children are to bring refillable drink bottles each day; metal bottles are discouraged.

**Our children have produced a healthy snack policy. This will be sent home to guide 'snacks' for breaktime.*

What will my child be learning this half term:

Core learning	<p>In writing we will be linking our cycles to our history topic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A diary of a WW1 soldier in the trenches.• A non-fiction report on the original use of castles and then during WW1.• A story from two different perspectives of a family coping with a member going to fight in WW1. <p>This half term we have a writing for enjoyment sessions linked to our history topic using the John Lewis WW1 themed Christmas advert as a hook.</p>
	<p>In reading the books we will be studying will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Horrible Histories: Frightful WW1• Goodnight Mr Tom by Michelle Magorian• Wonder by R.J Palacio• The Witches by Roald Dahl and Horrible Histories: Gorgeous Georgians
	<p>In maths we will be covering the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Line graphs and timetables• Multiplication and division• Area and perimeter
Skills	<p>In skills lessons we will be engaging in lessons linked to the following areas:</p> <p>Music: delivered by the Southend Music Hub with a focus on learning to play the glockenspiel.</p> <p>French: Do you have a pet?</p>
Connected curriculum	<p>Our focus unit this half term is called 'Castles and WW1'. This is a history-based unit with connections across the curriculum. The topic covers the Norman</p>

	<p>invasion and the building and uses of the first castles. We will also look at how WW1 started and how these castles were repurposed during this time.</p> <p>History skills that will be taught will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use sources of information to form historically valid questions about the past. • Summarise life in Britain from medieval times and beyond • Compare some of the times studied with those of other areas of interest around the world. • Understand the concept of continuity and change over time. • Use dates and terms accurately in describing events.
Faith, Health and Wellbeing	<p>During Faith and well-being lessons we will be thinking about the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would Jesus do? • Anti-bullying week • Why is self-respect important? • Why is sleep important? • Should we stereotype people? <p>Our Learning and Life skills focus this half term is called: It's up to me! Our targets are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can take responsibility for keeping to the class and school rules/codes even when no adults are present. • I can plan ahead for things that I need to do within set timescales.

Homework

Your child will bring home a copy of our knowledge organiser for each half term. A copy of the overview will be sent to your MCAS account. Spellings will be taught through our Emile scheme with a weekly spelling rule taught in class. The spelling rule and words will be given to your child on the half termly homework overviews with a short assessment completed the following week. Please practice these words and other words containing the rule at home.



As a Reading First school, we promote daily reading. Your child will bring home a book or a phonics book. They will be given an Accelerated Reader book at their reading level which they will need to read for at least 20 minutes a day and then complete an AR quiz. We promote reading for enjoyment as well so please encourage all kinds of reading and books at home that your child enjoys. See the homework section on our school website for more information. <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2237772>



In Year 5, we continue to promote TTRS. The app can be downloaded to all smartphones and tablets and it is also available online at <https://trockstars.com/>. This will support our children in their recall of multiplication facts. Your child will have a log in for TT Rockstars and we encourage daily practice for at least 6 minutes a day.

We are excited for the year ahead and look forward to working in partnership with you.

Year 5 Team.

Mrs Clarke, Ms Rosso and Mr Jobey

Mrs Dorrell and Mrs Ricks