



St James' CE Junior School  
Parent Information Sheet, Summer Term 1— Year 5 & 6

**English**

Our writing this half term is based on the book, 'Freedom Bird' by Jerdine Nolen. The themes of this text are: belonging, equality and fighting for freedom. The main outcome is to write a biography. Other writing outcomes also include: explanation texts, dialogue, postcards, letter of advice and a narrative poem. In reading, we are using the text 'Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow'. Children will explore the text by discussing characters and events as well as answering a range of comprehension-style questions.

**French— Playing together**

By the end of this unit, pupils will know:

The names of different sports and hobbies and a variety of verbs.

They will be able to:

Read verbs and match them to actions and images, read and translate sentences that contain known verbs, read questions and respond with affirmative and negative answers, write short conversations and simple sentences about sports they enjoy.

**Science**  
**Evolution and Inheritance**

How have living things changed over time?  
How has life evolved over time?  
What is DNA and what does it do?  
Are all offspring identical to their parents?  
Darwin and Wallace—What evidence did they share to argue the case for evolution?  
Survival of the fittest— How have animals adapted and evolved to suit their environment?

**PE**

1. Nimble nets
2. Striking and fielding

**Mathematics**  
**Year 5**  
Shape, Position and Direction  
**Year 6**  
Statistics. Shape and SATs revision

**RE - Life as a Journey**

This half term, children will be thinking about the idea that life is a journey and what it means to make that journey as a Christian. They will be exploring undertaking a religious pilgrimage across different world religions.

**History**  
**Local History Study**  
**Whitehaven—Our town, Our History**

We will be studying the amazing and powerful history of our town! We will go right back to the start to see how the town was born and how it grew. We will start by learning about "Good Historical Questions" and how historians use inference and evidence. We study the timeline of Whitehaven and its industrial past. We will be undertaking fieldwork and making time-travel visits around the town and learning about the scoundrel and rogue—John Paul Jones!!

**PSHE**  
**Safety and the changing body**

In this second unit on "Safety and the changing body" we will look at: Alcohol, Social Media and First Aid—we will also be learning about changing body including puberty and menstruation (more details to follow separately)

**Music**  
**Compositions for the festival of colour (Holi)**

This half term, children will explore creating and performing their own vocal compositions, using voices, colours and graphic scores to represent musical ideas. They will develop confidence in composing, performing, and evaluating music, using detailed musical vocabulary to describe and refine their work

**Art**  
**Sculpture—Making memories**

This half term, children will create expressive 3D sculptures inspired by memories and personal ideas, using a variety of materials and techniques. They will plan, make and reflect on their work, learning to experiment, develop their own style, and discuss how artists use shape, colour, and form to convey meaning.

**Computing**  
**Big Data 2**

We will continue our work on "Big Data" - revising and consolidating our first unit on this area of Computing. We'll look at transferring data, data usage, "The Internet of Things", designing a "Smart School" and creating a presentation on our Smart School.

