

Pinehurst Primary School

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 1 - 2026

The information on this sheet will give you a brief overview of some of the activities we will be doing this half-term across the curriculum. Please feel free to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions, or can offer any support.



English

This half term, our writing unit will be inspired by *Boy in the Tower* by Polly Ho-Yen. The children will explore the emotions and challenges faced by Ade, as his world is transformed by a mysterious fungal attack. Using their understanding of survival themes, the children will make careful vocabulary and stylistic choices to reflect the intensity of the story. They will build their skills in expanded noun phrases, modal verbs, and sequencing adverbials. Additionally, they will practice using causal conjunctions and explore technical vocabulary related to the Blucher invasion. By the end of the unit, the children will write a survival guide, incorporating every thing they've learned, and compare different survival strategies presented in the story.

PE

Year 5 will be completing a hockey unit this half term. In this unit, pupils will develop their dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting, coordination, and spatial awareness through a range of individual and team activities. Pupils will learn to control and move the ball with their stick, pass accurately to teammates, receive the ball safely, and begin to use a range of attacking and defending skills.

They will be encouraged to work collaboratively in small-sided games, thinking carefully about movement, positioning, decision-making, and creating space. They will start to apply their skills effectively in game situations, demonstrating control, accuracy, confidence, and increasing fluency when attacking and defending.

RE

In this religious education unit, students build on their previous learning to explore Jesus' teachings and their relevance to modern Christians.

They investigate Jesus' mission as outlined in Luke 4:18–19 and analyse in stances where he fulfilled it. The unit centres on key themes love, forgiveness, justice and fairness and generosity and responsible wealth.

The unit includes moral dilemmas, encouraging children to consider "What would Jesus do" and prompts reflection on the impact of following Jesus' teachings on school, local and global communities.

Maths

To begin the term, children will be learning about place value of numbers up to 1,000,000. It begins with reviewing numbers up to 100,000, and then progressing to 1,000,000, using concrete tools like place-value counters and charts. They compare large numbers with place value and bar models. The chapter concludes with number patterns and rounding. Children will also complete a calculations unit, focusing on addition and subtraction. They will begin with simple calculations and progress to more complex calculations involving multiple regrouping using the formal written method. After mastering these basics, students tackle problem solving using bar models.

Shared Reading

This half term, we will read from a collection of fiction, non fiction and poetry books.

Our fiction books are:

- *Between Worlds* by Kevin Crossley Holland and *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll.
- Our non-fiction books are *Against the Odds* by Alastair Humphreys and *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin.
- Our poetry books are *Where My Wellies Take Me* by Clare and Michael Morpurgo and *Wicked World* by Benjamin Zephaniah.



PSHE

In this Puzzle (unit), the children think and talk about the year ahead, goals they could set for themselves as well as the challenges they may face. They learn and talk about their rights and responsibilities as a member of their class, school, wider community and the country they live in. The children talk about their own behaviour and its impact on a group as well as choices, rewards, consequences and the feelings associated with each. They also talk about democracy, how it benefits the school and how they can contribute towards it. They revisit the Jigsaw Charter and set up their Jigsaw Journals.



Visits and Visitors - We will be undertaking a short outdoor walk to Stanley Park to support our Geography unit.

Book bags can now be brought in on any day and will be changed on Thursdays if needed. Please support children in their reading. This should be a minimum of 10/15 minutes of reading per night. Maple and Sycamore Class have P.E on a Monday afternoon. Homework will be sent home weekly on Fridays to be completed by the following Thursday. This will be set on Class Dojo and as a paper exercise for children to complete however is most convenient.

This half-term our topics are...

As an artist...

As an artist, we will be learning: learning line drawing techniques like cross hatching for detailed work. We'll observe objects closely, focusing on texture, shading, and gravity's impact in our drawings. We'll study two British fashion designers, comparing their styles and using their influences to sketch jackets inspired by Vivienne Westwood and Ozwald Boateng. Finally, we'll apply our creative skills to design unique jackets, drawing from the insights gained from our studies.



As a geographer...

As a geographer, we will be learning: to compare maps and aerial photos, locate places on various-scale maps, and evaluate evidence quality while suggesting improvements. We'll also create sketch maps with symbols and keys, recognise OS map symbols, and become skilled in using 8-figured compass points and begin using 6-figure grid references.



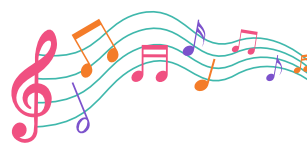
As a linguist ...

As a linguist, we will be learning: about ourselves, family, friends and illnesses. We will practise asking each other about our families and describing when parts of our bodies hurt.



As a musician...

As a musician, we will be learning: about graphic scores. We will explore alternative notation systems. We will interpret and perform from a graphic score and will create a score for a given piece and discuss the use of symbols in other composers work.



As a scientist ...

As a scientist, we will be learning: to group materials by properties like hardness, solubility, and conductivity. We'll understand how some substances dissolve in liquids, recover them, and use our knowledge of solids, liquids, and gases to separate mixtures through techniques like filtering and evaporating. We'll provide reasons for using materials based on evidence from tests, exploring reversibility in dissolving and mixing while acknowledging that some changes result in irreversible new materials.



Please keep an eye on our Class Dojo for important notices, events and key dates.

