



Year 5 Curriculum Overview – Spring Term 2026

English

In English, we will be completing an author study focusing on books by Katherine Rundell. We will write a biographical piece about her life and inspirations and use her novel *The Explorer* as inspiration for a setting description.

In Spring 2, we will be reading *1000 Year Old Boy* by Ross Welford. In this unit we will explore the process of building a character with the outcome of a detailed character description. We will also use our understanding of the main characters to create a diary entry in role.

Oracy/ Speaking:

The children will prepare and take part in a debate in response to the events in *1000 Year Old Boy*.

Through our English learning journey, children will be given opportunity to rehearse grammar skills acquired in Year 4 and learn new grammatical knowledge. We will be using commas for meaning, parenthesis, modal verbs and relative clauses. Spelling will continue to be explicitly taught once per week (with a spelling test on a Friday).

Spellings will continue to be sent home on Fridays, to be returned the following Friday.

Maths

This term, we will be continuing to use the White Rose scheme to engage children in their maths learning. The units we will be covering this term are as follows:

- Multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Decimals and percentages
- Perimeter and area
- Statistics

Maths homework will continue to focus on rehearsing key arithmetic skills. Additional tasks linked closely to the learning taking place in class will be set on Century. This homework provides an important opportunity for the children to practise and consolidate their understanding.

Reading

Reading will be taught as part of an English lesson as well as explicitly through our Complete Comprehension scheme.

We will link our reading lessons to English by using The Explorer and the 1000 Year-Old Boy, as well as extracts from our Complete Comprehension scheme.

The scheme includes a lesson per week focused on boosting vocabulary awareness followed by choral and shared reading, introducing a taught reading skill and a chance to apply this reading skill independently.

Religious Education

During the Spring Term, we will be thinking about what it means if God is loving and holy.

In Spring 2, as Easter approaches, we will be thinking about the Kingdom of GOD in heaven and on Earth.

Physical Education

During the first half of the term, our indoor P.E lesson will be focused on developing a range of body actions and shapes in gymnastics. Our outdoor lesson will focus on developing their skills including ways of communicating in tag rugby.

During the second half of the term, the children will explore movement in dance and during our outdoor lessons they will develop hockey skills such as dribbling and push passes.



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Art and Design

In Art this term, we are going to begin a new unit entitled Drawing: Depth, emotion and movement. During this unit the children will be exploring mark making for showing depth, emotion and movement.

They will use various types of lines and colour to emphasise emotion or draw attention as well as learn how to use a combination of marks to create tone and depth.

Science

This term, we will begin by exploring Earth and Space. Children will learn about the celestial bodies in our Solar System, including the movement of planets in orbits, how day and night and seasons occur, and the phases of the Moon. A visit to the Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum and the Planetarium will further enhance the children's understanding of space and the night sky.

Following this, we will undertake a full scientific enquiry to answer the question: *Does the size of an asteroid affect the diameter of its crater?* This unit will enable the children to make connections between concepts taught so far in Year 5 as well as develop their working scientifically skills.



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History

This term the children will answer the question: Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else?

To do this they will consider evidence from a range of primary and secondary sources; explain why trade routes were important to the Vikings and Evaluate the impact of Viking achievements.

French

In French, we are starting a new unit of work on shopping for food. The children will use their knowledge of numbers to say (in French) the cost of a range of food items and they will 'shop' for the ingredients for a recipe.

Geography

This term, children will be learning all about What is life like in the Alps?

They will look at the physical and human geography of the Alps, by locating it on a map and looking at a town at based near the Alps, Innsbruck.

Design Technology

In DT, children will explore the design and construction of bridges. They will investigate strong and weak shapes. And understand the role of different structural elements, including beams and arches. Using this knowledge, the children will design and build a truss bridge capable of supporting a load.



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Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (including Relationships Education)

In PSHE in the Spring term, we will be learning about health and wellbeing. The children will explore the link between stress and relaxation; the importance of a good night's sleep and they will be given strategies to help them manage their feelings and tips on how to stay safe in the sun.

In Spring 2, we will be looking at citizenship and finding out what rights are as well as discovering how people contribute to society and how this is recognised.

Computing

Our first Spring term Computing unit focuses on how computers store, process, and transfer data. We will explore digital images by creating pixel pictures and learning how pixels and binary work, as well as how files can be saved and compressed. We will also learn about computer memory and the fetch, decode and execute cycle. Alongside this, the children will independently learn to use the design tool TinkerCAD.

In Spring 2, we will use Scratch to explore coding through music and sound. The children will create soundtracks using loops and nested loops, remix existing programs, and make their code more efficient. They will also debug errors and explain how their programs work using inputs and outputs.