

Autumn key dates 2026

Tuesday 1st September - INSET DAY - staff only
Wednesday 2nd September - School opens - Autumn Term 1
Friday 11th September - Class Fundraiser
Friday 18th September - INSET DAY - staff only
Thursday 24th September - Autumn Disco
Friday 2nd October - Sukkot
Friday 9th October - PTA - Crazy hair day - Halal sweets donation
Wednesday 14th October - Individual/sibling photographs
Friday 23rd October - PTA - Wear your trainers - Chocolate donation
Friday 23rd October school closes at 3:15pm for half term

Monday 2nd November—School re-opens 8:45am
Friday 13th November - PTA - Wear your PJs - Present donation
Tuesday 17th November - Parents Evening 3:30pm-6pm
Thursday 19th November - Parents Evening 3:30pm-7pm
Friday 27th November - PTA - come feeling Christmassy - Bottle donation
Friday 27th November - Christmas Fair
Friday 18th December - School closes 3:15pm

Good Choices

We are continuing to use the 'Bee Rules' to help the children make good choices in school. These rules are displayed in the classroom and around school:

1. Be kind
2. Be a good listener
3. Be hardworking
4. Be respectful
5. Be responsible



Where children make mistakes with their behaviour, we encourage them to put these right—just as they would a mistake in their academic work. We're all human, all learning, all doing our best!

In the Autumn, when the weather is changing...

Unless we're contending with deluges of absolutely torrential rain, we take the children outside at break and lunchtime. A bit of drizzle never stops us! With this in mind, please do ensure the children have a coat with a hood in school every day. When it turns colder, extras like warm gloves and hats are also welcomed.



Please ensure that coats, along with every other item of their uniform, is clearly labelled. You would not believe the amount of lost property we accumulate in school each year—all of it nameless so it can't be returned to its owner.

Year 5 Autumn Term 2026



5L Class Teacher
Miss le Couteur

Learning Support
Mrs Ella-Browne
Miss North
Mrs. Hanuliakova

Welcome to Year 5 and Upper Key Stage 2! We hope that you had a wonderful summer break and are refreshed and ready for the challenges – and fun – which lie ahead this year! The children have settled into their new building fantastically and have begun their new school year with great enthusiasm, maturity and curiosity.

This term we will begin our topic 'How did the Kingdom become united?' The children will become historians and investigate the role of the Anglo Saxons and Vikings played in shaping the country we know today.

English

We will be adopting the *Talk 4 Writing* approach to teaching English: lots of talk and games to imbue children with the skills and confidence to become fluent writers. To kick us off, the whole school will be enjoying *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and we will use this familiar story to explore Year 5 grammar and punctuation objectives. We're sure their work will be "just right"!

We will continue to learn a new set of spellings each week, practising these every day using a variety of methods. Additionally, Reading will continue to be taught as a whole class.

Year 5 children continue to work through the school's scheme of reading books. We have increased expectations of independence in UKS2 and children are expected to change their own reading books as soon as you have signed their home/school diary to say the book has been finished. Please listen to your child read every day, even if only for five minutes. Please talk to them about what they've read, too—ask about characters, settings, plots and their opinions on the book. We cannot overstate how much this aids the children in all aspects of their school work and confidence.

Maths

During the first part of this year we will be focusing on the children's number skills and understanding of place value. This will involve ensuring that the children are confident using formal methods for the four mathematical operations. The children will have lots of opportunities to deepen their understanding through investigation and problem-solving work.

The single most important way you can support your child in their Maths work is by encouraging them to practise times table facts up to 12x12, and associated division facts, regularly. 'Little and often' is the most effective way to keep these facts at the children's fingertips. Use chants and songs—there are lots of these online! The online tools you used in Year 4 are brilliant and the children still have access to these, including their Times Table Rockstars accounts.

Home Learning

Reading - It is a school expectation that children read to an adult, at home, at least three times a week. We would love to encourage reading for pleasure, so children are more than welcome to read their banded book from school alongside another book of their choice. We have a great selection of books in the Key Stage 2 library as well as in the classroom book corner. We are also lucky enough to have Heald Green Library on our doorstep. Study after study demonstrates that children who read are more likely to achieve academic success in all subjects—not just in English! Research also shows that reading is also brilliant for promoting mental wellbeing and good sleep habits. Sharing a book is also just a lovely way to bond and enjoy one another's company.

Times Tables

These facts underpin many areas of our Maths work. We know you worked really hard to learn them in Year 4; please continue to practise them so the children's recall stays strong. By the end of Year 5, the children are also expected to know squared and cubed numbers up to 12.

Homework Sheet

We will continue to set half-termly creative homework tasks and ask that these are submitted through Class Dojo so children can share their completed projects with their classmates.

Snacks and Drinks

Children should bring a snack for breaktime—please ensure these are 'healthy snacks' and, due to allergies in school, they must be nut-free. This is especially important on Tuesdays, after Year 5 have been swimming, when lunchtime feels like a long way away!

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day. We keep these in a box in the classroom and children have access to these throughout the day. Please remind children to take these bottles home regularly so they can be cleaned!

PE and Forest School

Year 5 will have swimming lessons on Tuesday mornings during the Autumn term (until we finish for the Christmas holidays). On Tuesdays, children should come to school wearing swimming costumes/trunks under uniforms; they also need a bag containing a towel and their underwear.

5L will have Forest School on Tuesday afternoons for the first half-term (until October half-term). Mrs. Plumb will send out a letter containing everything you'll need to know about that.