

"Building strong foundations, together, for everyone."



# Learning News

## *Spring Term 2025*

*Find out what your child will be learning this term!*

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## SCHOOL DIARY DATES FOR THE SPRING TERM 2025

2025 Dates (Spring Term)	2025 Events
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year R Measurement check with school nursing team
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year R Development Milestones Parent Meeting 2.45pm FOBS Hall
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Y1 Sharing Assembly 2.45pm Parents/Carers welcome
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Enrichment Week
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	FOBS Meeting (remote)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half Term
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Y4 Sharing Assembly 2.45pm Parents/Carers welcome
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 trip to Beale Park
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Y6 Sharing Assembly 2.45pm Parents/Carers welcome
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day dress up day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 trip to Windsor Castle
W/c 10 <sup>th</sup> March	NFER Test Week
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Y5 Sharing Assembly 2.45pm Parents/Carers welcome FOBS Meeting (in person)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Travelling Book Fair in school – FOBS HALL
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Y2 Sharing Assembly 2.45pm Parents/Carers welcome
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	IN PERSON Parents' Progress Meeting 3.30-6.30pm
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> March	VIRTUAL Parents' Progress Meeting (online) 3.30 – 6.30pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	FOBS Pre-loved uniform sale in playground
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Y3 + Y4 Production Performance (1) to Parents 1.30pm Y3 + Y4 Production Performance (2) to Parents 6.00pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	KS2 Easter Services at St Marks KS1 & YR Easter service in main hall Last day of term
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	FOBS Social Meeting at pub



## Term Dates 2024 to 2025

### Autumn term 2024

<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024</b>
Term starts	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024</b>
Term ends	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Spring Term 2025

<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>
Term starts	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>
<b>Half term</b>	<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025</b>
Term ends	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Easter holiday:	Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025 (Good Friday: 18 April 2025, Easter Monday 21 April 2025)

### Summer term 2025

<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025</b>
Term starts	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2025
<b>May Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – school closed</b>
<b>Half term</b>	<b>Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025</b>
Term ends	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025

## Basic routines and reminders

### Home-Learning Expectations



We believe that it is essential that children practise some basic skills regularly at home and we know this makes a difference. As such this will become our core expectation for all children. This will include: daily reading; learning phonics/spellings; learning number bonds and times tables.

The amount of time to be spent on this will increase with the age of the pupils (which originate from Department of Education guidance).

	<b>Reading/daily practice of spellings and mental arithmetic</b>
YR	10 mins
Y1 & Y2	20 mins
Y3 & Y4	25 mins
Y5 & Y6	30 mins

All children are expected to practise their reading, spellings and mental arithmetic each day up to the designated amount of time. Increasingly, there is a need for children to practise their number bonds, times tables and quick mental arithmetic, as they are not as adept at these skills as they could be. Children from Year 1 upwards will bring home their **Maths Minutes strips** each week to learn and improve their speed. Please can you help ensure that your child spends a few minutes each night trying to improve these skills.

Home-learning diaries should be used as a valuable means of communication and regularly signed please.

### Optional Home-Learning

There will then be an additional optional Home-Learning available each night for all pupils. Whilst children will be encouraged to engage in these activities, they are not compulsory.

#### KS1

In the infants, this will be in the form of a learning grid and will include activities that support developing basic skills e.g. fine and gross motor skills (dot to dot; throwing and catching; telling the time; drawing/colouring; cutting out; language development; basic maths) finding out about something.

	<b>Optional Additional Home Learning (daily)</b>
YR	10 mins
Y1 & Y2	15 mins

#### KS2

In KS2, we have chosen to use technology to support basic skills practise in English, Maths and science. We use Century Tech which is a computer programme which uses A.I to adjust the demands of the practice to your child's level. It also models/shows your child (and you) how to do something and is completely in-line with modern teaching methods. It also provides immediate feedback to your child and you and the teacher can also monitor pupil progress. All children will be provided with a log in.

The recommended time to be spent is as follows:

	<b>Optional Additional Home Learning (daily)</b>
Y3 & Y4	20 mins
Y5 & Y6	30 mins

These guidelines are followed in each year group and we ask that **children do not spend more time on Home-Learning unless they really wish to do so.**

**Reading Sessions:** If you have a Binfield DBS check and wish to help with reading, you are most welcome. Get in touch with the class teacher.

Please ensure you bring your DBS (Volunteer) badge with you to gain access to the main school building.

### **Games Lessons:**

Y1	Monday
Y2	Tuesday
Y3	Wednesday
Y4	Thursday
Y5 and Y6	Friday

May we also remind you that the children need to bring a named water bottle every day.

## Collective Worship (Assemblies)

### Spring Term

We have a variety of different types of collective worship planned for this term and as in the Spring term, we have Luke, our Vicar to lead some of these. We encourage the children to take an active part. I am sure your child will keep you informed. In addition, we hope some of you can join us for the Easter service at St Mark's Church



At Binfield we are use an Oxford Diocese resource called 'School Worship Bible Project'. It is a four year project which focuses on one of the four gospel writers each year through a thematic approach. This year we are focusing on Bible stories from Matthew's Gospel. Our themes for the Spring term will be Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. These themes will also link to Christian values which we will explore.

Our collective worship sessions will include a range of forms of worship, including:

- Prayer
- Reflection
- Meditation
- Bible readings
- Thinking about and asking questions
- Drama
- Responses

The children are encouraged to reflect on how worship makes them think, feel and behave, and collect their responses in class books.

### Other Messages

#### *Celebrating birthdays*



It is a very popular tradition for children to want to celebrate their birthday with their fellow classmates at Binfield. Whilst we encourage positive celebration and fully partake in singing 'Happy Birthday', etc, we also need to be mindful of others and the need to promote being healthy.

As such, if your child wishes to bring in a treat to share on their birthday, they may bring a small

cake (e.g. fairy cake) for each of their classmates. However, it **must be** nut free, contain ingredient information and not contain sweets. Alternatives such as packets of dried fruit would be suitable instead, but packets of sweets, chocolate bars or ice creams/lollies are not permissible. We request that cakes are kept to a fairy cake size, as with 30 birthdays in each class this will equate to almost one per week!

There is no obligation on any child to bring in a treat to share. If your child suffers from any food intolerance or allergy, you may wish to talk to your child's class teacher and provide an alternative treat which could be used as a substitute, or withdraw them from receiving a treat. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter

## **Reception Curriculum**

Our topics this term is **The World Around us**, followed by **Amazing Animals**.

Our Reception children will be learning about our multi-cultural local community and the changes we will be seeing in our environment, within our topic of 'The World Around Us'.

We enjoy learning about how our friends and family celebrate their special festivals, therefore we will be doing some activities about the Lunar New Year, Holi and Easter this term. If you would like to contribute to any of these activities, or if there is a festival you celebrate this term, please do let us know. We would really like to invite you in to share this with us. If this is something you would be interested in please speak to your child's class teacher. Following on from this, we will also be exploring how we can look after our school and local environment through the 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), which will lead into our next topic of 'Amazing Animals'. Through observing, stories and non-fiction books we will be finding out about the wildlife in the BOLE and beyond.

**Reading** – Please continue to read with your children at least 5 times a week, and sign the diary when you have done this.

**RWI (Read Write Inc – phonics)**– We have been practising our Set 1 sounds and are now beginning to read and write words using what we know. Some children have moved onto the Set 2 sounds, which are all 'special friends' (2 letters 1 sound).

**Maths** – Within Maths, we will be continuing to develop our number skills, working towards a deeper understanding of numbers 1-10. We will be focusing on comparing numbers to 10, number bonds to 10, comparing mass and capacity, length and height, time, 3D shape and pattern.

**Evidence Me** – We have all really enjoyed seeing what the children are celebrating, achieving and experiencing at home with you. The children have grown in confidence during the last half term speaking in front of their peers and developing their questioning skills within our sharing times. Please continue to share this with us.

**Home-learning Enrichment Grids** – These are on our class page on the school's website <https://www.binfieldschool.co.uk/reception-2/> . We add one each half term. Please upload any photos or videos of your children completing any of the activities onto their Evidence Me account.

With the cold weather, children are encouraged to wear hats, scarves, gloves etc. We are working hard with the children to remember to put these items into their book bags when they are not being worn. However, we have accumulated a lot of unnamed lost property with these items. Please could you help us by labelling all items (including each glove separately) and showing your child where their name label can be found. One of the activities on our Enrichment Grid this half term is to teach your child to do their own zip... just a few minutes a day on this and we are sure they will achieve this quickly. If all children can do this independently, it will save valuable learning time in school.

We are continuing to use the BOLE regularly in all weathers. If we send your child's BOLE kit home, we would be grateful if you could wash it and return it asap, thank you! We are now fully changing for PE every Friday. Please could we remind you that every single piece of clothing needs to be named – even socks and pants!

We look forward to working with you during the Spring term and beyond. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's learning, please see your child's class teacher at the beginning or end of the school day when we will be happy to talk to you.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

*Miss Tissot and Mr Sutton*

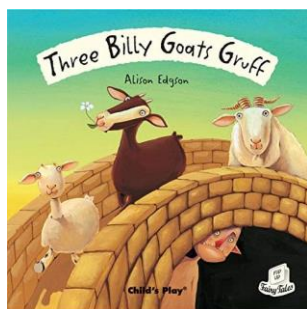
## Year 1 Curriculum



Welcome to the Spring Term in Year 1.

Our theme for this Term is **The Great Fire of London**.

Reading: Thank you for your continued support in reading with the children at home. We are practicing reading with expression in our literacy lessons, so once children are confident reading the words in their books, please encourage them to re-read the story with expression and intonation. We are also practising improving our comprehension by answering questions on the texts we are reading. May we remind you that we encourage the children to have a range of experience in their reading, so please read different types of text with your child; above all, remember to read for enjoyment!



English: Basic English skills are taught throughout the Read, Write Inc. (phonics) sessions as well as through many other subject areas. We shall be encouraging your child to write independently using their phonic knowledge to help them identify sounds in words and to write in sentences. We are now expecting the children to use capital letters and full stops, and to be able to identify sentences. We are also encouraging the children to leave finger spaces in between words. This term the children will be learning about writing for different purposes, such as writing texts based on traditional tales (such as The 3 Billy Goats Gruff) and diary writing (based on Samuel Pepys and The Great Fire of London).

Maths: This term we will be focusing on addition and subtraction, place value within 50, length & height and weight & volume. We will also increase the time we spend on problem solving as well as continuing our daily Maths Mastery to develop speed and fluency of basic number calculations.

Have you seen the new App from White Rose Maths? Your child might find this useful when learning basic number facts. The children also have a login for Numbots which can be found on their reading record.

Science: As well as making our own scientific discoveries in our outdoor learning environment the BOLE, we will also be learning about classifying animals, growing plants and how to care for the planet. We will continue to look at the seasons focusing on Winter and Spring.

RE: This term we will be learning about the Jewish festival of Chanukah and how this special celebration helps Jewish children feel closer to God. In the second half of the term, we will learn about the Easter story and how it is celebrated by Christians. We will also look at how Christians believe they should treat others.

PSHCE: During circle time, we will focus on Friends: taking it in turns, listening and being a good friend. Our PSHCE lessons in the first half of our term will focus on our dreams and goals and how we can take well-thought-out steps to achieving them. In the second half of our term, we will be learning about how we can keep ourselves healthy and safe in a variety of settings such as: at home, school, crossing roads and while using the internet.

Computing: In Computing we will be looking at programming Beebots and handling data.

Design and Technology: The children will be using their engineering skills to design and make their own house to help London re-build after the Great Fire of London! We will be using our knowledge of materials from our Science and History lessons to think carefully about the materials that would be best to make our houses from. We will use a variety of cutting and joining methods to improve the stability of our houses. We will be using

small cardboard boxes for our houses so please save your recycling for your children to bring in after half term.

History: The children will be finding out about The Great Fire of London: how it started, where it started and why it took so long to put out.



Art and Design: The children will work on their collage skills; cutting and tearing different materials to create a 'fiery effect'. We will study the work of Jan Griffier and Samuel Rolle and see how they produced their Great Fire of London paintings. We will also use our drawing and cutting skills to complete our own London silhouette.

Music: We will be exploring long and short sounds (duration) and rhythm in the context of songs with actions. The children will then use the knowledge they have gained in the first half of the term to create and perform their own compositions.

PE: In the first half term, we will be practising our balance through both static and dynamic movements. These will be practiced in whole group and partner games. In the second half of term, we will start focusing on developing co-ordination and ball skills, before learning about counter-balances with a partner.

Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit with them in school all week. If your child would like to use the adventure trail when it is our turn, they will need trainers in school at all times. We also try and go into the BOLE weekly, so please ensure children have wellies and waterproofs in school every day.

May we remind you that the children need to bring a named water bottle every day. We look forward to working with you and your children this term.

Liz Sims, Laura Shore and Ruth Newling-Ward.

## Year 2 Curriculum

Welcome to the Spring Term in Year 2.

This term our topic is **The Coronation**.



### **English:**

**READING** - The children are being encouraged to widen their vocabulary, so please continue to discuss interesting words in their reading books. As we continue our journey of developing independent readers, please encourage your child to explore a wide range of texts including poetry, fiction and non-fiction. We will be looking at inference and deduction in the texts. Children should be reading every night and have their book and reading log in school each day.

**WRITING** – We will be writing stories linked to traditional tales, diaries of the Coronation and producing a non-chronological report about the historic event.

**Mathematics:** We will be concentrating on multiplication, division, shape, and measurement. We shall also be looking at coins, their value and using them as a context for the different operations. The children should be fluent when counting in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's and learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables with quick recall. We will be developing their reasoning skills when answering a question so they can show how they got an answer. Children should now be using TT Rockstars to help with their multiplication and division.

**Science:** This term, we will be learning about plants, living things and their habitats. We will be starting our term investigating the best place to grow a plant. We will be learning about different habitats, food chains and exploring similarities and differences between a range of habitats.

**Computing:** We will continue to talk about e-safety as well as using technology to communicate and share our work and knowledge on the Coronation. We will also be learning about algorithms using robots and how to create pictograms.

**PE:** We will be continuing with the REAL PE curriculum, enjoying PE through stories and games as well as putting our skills into use through football and basketball. During dance sessions we will look at fluency in movement.



**History:** We shall be finding out about the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and comparing it to the Coronation of King Charles. Please let us know if you know people who have any memorabilia they can share with us. We will look at the key events during this time and also take a trip to Windsor Castle to see some artefacts and talk to some experts. We will use our empathy learning muscle to think about what it was like at the Coronation.

**Geography:** Linking to our Coronation work, we will have lots of opportunities to use world maps, atlases and globes. We will look at the United Kingdom, where the Royal Family have castles and stately homes and where these are in relation to Binfield.



**Art:** Our artwork will be looking at Andy Warhol and focusing on portraits of the Royal Family. We will also use digital media to edit our own pictures of the King.

**DT:** We will be designing and making a carriage for the King's Coronation, thinking about how axle mechanisms work.

**PSHCE:** We shall start the year thinking about how we belong to different groups and communities. We will consider how our behaviour affects others and how our own bodies and feelings can be hurt. We will continue to make links with internet safety.

**RE:** This term, we will be learning about Judaism. We will be thinking about the different stories, 10 commandments, Passover and prayer. Later in the term, we will learn about Easter and the resurrection, talking about the symbols and their Christian meaning.

**Music:** In Music, we shall be exploring timbre, tempo and dynamics through a range of songs.

We would love to welcome you into school to support in the curriculum. We are keen to develop the new generation of artists, historians and musicians so if you have a skill in any of those areas please contact your child's class teacher. We would also love to welcome you to hear readers in Year 2.

*Hannah Ridnell and Tatum Celliers*

## **Year 3 Curriculum**

This term our topic is **Binfield**.

We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. Thank you to everyone who gave us gifts, cards or wished us a Merry Christmas on the last day of term. It was really appreciated. We have lots of exciting things planned for the Spring! Here is an outline of our curriculum studies this term:

**English:** The children will be reading and exploring the 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. In writing, we are starting by studying the features of instructions and writing our own. We will then move on to cinquain poetry and newspaper reports and finish the Spring term by writing our very own mystery stories!

**Maths:** This will involve work on mental arithmetic skills, fractions, length and perimeter and mass and capacity. There are many learning opportunities at home that add valuable support to your child's learning. Teaching your child to tell the time, counting money and change, practising times tables, measuring and problem solving all help to consolidate and reinforce maths skills taught at school. Some excellent websites are available for free such as Top Marks Maths which incorporate maths learning into fun games.

**Computing:** We are looking at programming skills using 'Scratch'. In the second half of the term, we will be learning about branching databases and having a go at creating our own.

**Geography:** Our theme this term is to focus on a region of Binfield and its place in the world. We will be looking at both the physical and human geography of Binfield particularly how its land use has changed over time. We will also be looking at OS Maps and the symbols used throughout these.

**History:** Within our Geography topic, we will be looking at the history of Binfield and how it has changed over time.

**Science:** We will begin by learning all about soils and after half term, we will be exploring the topic of Light.

**Art & Design:** We will be looking at the works of Vincent Van Gogh and Oskar Kokoschka. We will be learning how to mix colours and use painting techniques to attempt our own interpretation of their work. In the second half of the term, we will be focusing on DT, where we will be exploring healthy and varied diets resulting in making some delicious sandwiches.

**Music:** Our learning this term is focused around 'How does music make the world a better place?' We will use our imagination to help us compose our own piece of music using Kerry Andrew's 'No Place Like' for inspiration. We will then be sharing musical experiences and thinking about "How does music help us get to know our community?" and listening to music from around the world.

**PE:** The children will take part in competitive games and apply basic principles for attacking and defending. Our PE times are Tuesday morning (indoor) and Wednesday afternoon (outdoor – weather permitting).

**RE:** This term we will be developing our understanding of Sikhism, specifically looking at the 5ks. Following this, we will be finding out more about the Easter story. We even have a special visitor coming in to visit us at school!

**French:** We will be learning about the months of the year, naming body parts and clothes.

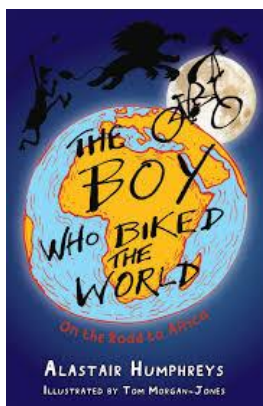
**PSHCE:** We will be developing self-esteem and awareness through the Jigsaw scheme of work which we will be around 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'.

Reading is an extremely important daily home-learning activity which greatly impacts their learning in school. Reading is essential across the whole curriculum and the more your child practices, the more confident they will become. We encourage times table tables practice of any kind at home; this could be using TT Rockstars, Hit the Button or even Century Tech. Keep an eye out for those Century Nuggets too!

*Emma Muggeridge and Joan Barker*

## Year 4 Curriculum

This term our topic is **Rainforests**.



We are looking forward another exciting term! We have lots of exciting learning planned and we would like to give you a brief idea of some of the things we'll be doing over the coming weeks. We are especially excited about our Year 4 play.

**English/Writing:** Our English work this term will be based on rainforests and will cover different genres of writing. Our learning will mainly focus around the story of *The Boy Who Biked the World* by Alastair Humphreys. We will be writing as the boy, writing informal letters, a warning story, haikus, a non-chronological report on 'Parents' and 'Teachers'!

**Reading:** Children will be involved in independent, group and guided reading activities, focusing on understanding the text. Our main text we will focus on is *The Boy Who Biked the World* by Alastair Humphreys. We would really love to welcome more parents or grandparents in to support with reading in year 4. If you are able to spare some time, please speak to your child's class teacher.

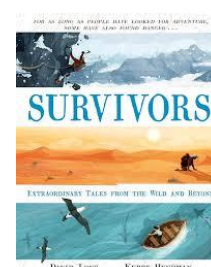
**Maths:** The children will continue to develop their skills across all areas. To help their progress, you can support them in their learning by helping them practise times tables and related division facts, as well as basic mental arithmetic, telling the time and dealing with measures (including length and perimeter) and money. It is expected that all children know all their times tables by the end of Year 4. We will be learning about multiplication and division, perimeter, fractions and decimals.



Our main focus will be knowing our times tables to automaticity up to 12 x 12. Please help your child to focus on one times table at a time, then build another times table and so on. A good order to learn times tables is 2, 5, 10, 4, 8, 3, 6, 9, 7, 11 and finally the 12 times tables. Your child can practise them on Times table Rock Stars and Hit the Button (Please scan the QR Code). We also recommend FunKey Times Table Cards to support your child in a fun and visual way (<https://www.funkeymaths.com/product/times-tables-maths-cards/>).

**Science:** This term we will be learning about 'Sound'. Children will learn that sounds are made when objects vibrate. By the end of the term, they should understand that we hear sounds because an object vibrates. These vibrations then travel through the air (or another medium) to our ears. After half term our topic will be based on 'Electricity'. Where the children will learning about common appliances that use electricity, build and draw series circuits as well as learning about conductors and insulations.

**Geography:** Our geography topic this term will be all about rainforests. We will be finding out about rainforest climate; the layers of the rainforest; where rainforests are located; what animals are found there and what food is sourced there. We will also be looking at Human Geography and how Native tribes lived or still live in the rainforest. We will deepening our understanding by reading a selection of tales from: *Survivors: Extraordinary Tales from the Wild and Beyond*.



**RE:** In the first half term, we will be exploring Buddhism. What is meant by the term enlightenment? Is it possible for everyone to be happy? In the second half of the term, the children will be exploring Easter and why Christians remember Holy Week every year. We will learn how Christians remember, celebrate and serve on Maundy Thursday as well as learning about Holy Communion.

**Computing:** This term, the children will be looking at 'Programming'. Children will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language. After half term, we will be looking at 'Data Logging. We will look at why data is collected over time and how computers can use special input devices called sensors to monitor the environment. Children will collect data as well as access data captured over periods of time to then review and analyse data.



**PE:** Our PE sessions will be on Thursday afternoons and, as it remains cold and wet outside, your child will need to have suitable kit with them for these sessions. On Wednesday mornings, we will start our indoor PE sessions which will focus on dance.

**Art:** We will be looking at art inspired by the rainforest, studying the artist Henri Rousseau and the painting 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm'. Children will be strengthening their water colour skills from the Autumn term. At the end of the topic, children will produce a final collage using layers for effect.

**Music:** This year we will be looking at all aspects of music including rhythm, note duration and music appreciation. We will also be preparing for our Year 4 play where the children will learn a selection of songs.

**PSHCE:** We will continue to develop the children's understanding and application of Growth Mindset. We will be working through the Jigsaw scheme of learning used in school to look at 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'.

**French:** We will be learning to speak about places in a town and how to describe people, while also exploring the culture of France.

**D & T:** Our D & T this term will link to our PSHCE on 'Healthy Me'. Children will investigate healthy eating and ways of processing food through designing and making healthy dips and dippers for a party. They will need to plan, review and improve their designs.

*Manjit Kaila and Katherine Taplin*

## Year 5 Curriculum

Welcome to the Spring Term! The children are already excited and inspired by our new topic- **Sustainability!** Check out all the amazing new things we will be covering in our action-packed term.

**English:** Our new class text this term will be *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold. This thought-provoking novel will inspire us to write informal letters, newspapers and discussion texts. Furthermore, our Easter Service will provide the children the chance to write their own playscripts.

As always, we ask for your support with their daily reading. Although the children have made good progress, you can support their deeper understanding by discussing the plot, characterisation, prediction, etc. This has an incredible impact on the children's own writing abilities and understanding of the relationship between the author and reader. The children can even use their magpie books to record new ideas and vocabulary from their reading.

**Mathematics:** This term, we will begin by working on multiplication and division – focusing on written methods for multiplication; as well as short division, including with remainders. We will then explore the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages. Later on, we will work practically to solve problems involving perimeter, area and statistics.

**Science:** We are covering four units of work this term. First, we will take a brief look a global warning before moving on to properties of materials. The children will have the opportunity to improve their observational skills during a variety of investigations. The next units will be Animals and then Lifecycles after half term.

**RE:** The main focus for the first term will be Hinduism, focusing on the question: Do beliefs in Karma, Samsara and Moksha help Hindus lead good lives? The second half term will focus on the Easter story, leading up to our Easter Service at St. Mark's Church.

**Geography:** This term we will be learning about Sustainability. We will be describing and understanding the key aspects of human and physical geography. There will be a local area study within this topic too.

**Art:** We will be exploring the 'World of Wearable Art', taking inspiration from the annual 'World of Wearable Art' event in New Zealand. Children will have the opportunity to explore different materials and techniques before designing their own wearable art inspired by the theme of sustainability. The unit will culminate in a fashion show to showcase the final creations.

**DT:** We will be applying some of our Computing learning by designing and making fairground rides, using crumble micro-controllers.

**PE :** Games will continue to take place on Friday afternoons where the children will develop their skills and game play in a range of sports. During Monday PE sessions we will be using Real PE to develop stance and footwork; as well as seated balance and floorwork balance.

**Music:** The main focus will be on singing, and developing musical skills to play tuned and untuned percussion. The themes we will be studying are Composing and Chords; plus Enjoying Musical Styles. Within these units, children will be doing some music appreciation and composition of their own.

**Computing:** During the first half term, we will use physical computing to explore the concept of selection in programming through the use of Crumble microcontrollers. Then for the second half of the term, we will create and use flat-file databases.

**PSHCE:** Firstly, we will be looking at "Dreams and Goals", exploring the world of work: discussing why people do different jobs and sharing our aspirations. After half-term, the topic will be 'Healthy Me'. We will be examining what a healthy lifestyle looks like.

**French:** We will be continuing to review and extend previous learning in speaking and listening, reading and writing in French whilst enhancing the children's appreciation of the French culture. We will look at Hobbies and School Trips.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic Spring Term in Year 5.

*Nicola Ross and Irene Stock*

## **Year 6 Curriculum**

Year 6 Curriculum

This term our topic is **Women in History**.

Firstly, the Year 6 team would like to wish you all a prosperous and happy 2025. We hope you and your children had a wonderful holiday and are rested and ready for a busy Spring Term.

In school, our curriculum will cover the following:

**English:** Through the study of Macbeth, we will be looking at discussion texts, recounts and character description, as well as continuing with our work on the basic skills of spelling, grammar, handwriting and punctuation. We will be exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts.

**Guided Reading:** This term the class will begin their study of 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. We will be using the text to learn and practise reading skills including how to find and record information, evaluate the meaning of words in context and make inferences.

**Maths:** This term we will be continuing to develop our understanding of place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). In addition to this, we will be focusing on decimals and percentages, shape, ratio and algebra. We would also like to remind you that in Year 6 we expect children to be fluent with their multiplication tables (to 12 x 12) and their related division facts. Learning these is not a part of the Year 6 curriculum as the children should have learnt them earlier on in school. We can give you strategies for helping your child commit them to memory. Please remember that counting in steps (e.g. 4 8 12 16 20 etc.) is saying multiples, not tables. Children need to be able to have immediate recall of random questions (e.g. 7 x 4) to be able to declare that they know their tables fluently. Please encourage your child to use TT Rockstars to help with this.

**Science:** This term we will be exploring the topics of 'Light,' 'The Circulatory System' and 'Diet, Drugs & Lifestyle.' The children will be learning how we see, how light travels, shadows and refraction. They will be exploring blood and the heart, along with the circulatory system. They will also look at the effects of diet and drugs. In all of our Science topics, children will plan, investigate and evaluate their own experiments.

**R.E.:** The children will be learning to evaluate different beliefs about eternity and to understand the Christian perspective on this. The key question for enquiry will be 'Is anything ever eternal?' In the second half of the term, we will be revisiting The Easter Story and exploring the question 'What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?'

**History:** The unit of work being covered this term relates to Women in History. We will be researching famous women in history and their achievements. We will also be thinking about how the role of women has changed throughout history.

**French:** The children will be spending some time revising French topics including greetings, numbers, days of the week and food. We will be focusing on verbal pronunciation in conversations and reading in French.

P.S.H.C.E. / Circle Time: The children will be looking at the topic 'Dreams and Goals.' They will consider their own personal learning goals, both in and out of school, and how to make a difference in the world. We will also be looking at emotional and mental health and managing stress.

Art: This term we will be looking at Digital Media, considering the different techniques that are used.

Computing: Our work in Computing will explore the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch and introduce children to spreadsheets.

Music: In this area, the children will continue to hone the skills of creating music, singing, and listening, building on the skills they have acquired this year.

P.E.: Games will continue to take place on Friday afternoons where the children will develop their skills and tactics work. The children must, however, have their full PE kit in school every day, as we are sometimes able to be flexible with the timetable and we do not want your child to miss out. Please ensure that your child has suitable warm and waterproof clothing to wear. The children will also follow different units of work (day subject to change), focusing on how to collaborate and how to maintain health and fitness.

A Few Reminders:

Home Learning: This term, Home Learning will be organised in the form of 'Home Learning Booklets' for Maths; Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation (SPaG) and Reading. The children are expected to complete the set questions every evening and bring their booklet to school the next day for marking. We will also be continuing to set English and Maths 'nuggets' on Century Tech each week. While this homework is 'optional,' Century Tech is hugely beneficial to the children's learning and progress.

Reading Records: It is expected that children read five times per week and record this as an entry in their reading log. It is important to engage in discussions with children about the texts they are reading to support their comprehension.

Finally, we anticipate having a formal Mock SATs week to familiarise the children with the Summer SATs. This will be held towards the end of February and will be a chance for the children to feel a little more prepared for when the real tests happen in May.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support this term.

*Emily Fenner and Richard Levens*