

# Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 5

Spring Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

## Overview of Learning

## Ideas for Learning at Home

English



For the first part of the spring term, Year 5 will be using their reading and understanding of the novel 'Odd and the Frost Giants' by Neil Gaiman to write diary recounts and a character episode. The class will also enjoy reading two further class novels this term. The first of these novels is 'The London Eye Mystery' by Siobhan Dowd. This thrilling adventure story follows the story of Ted, who follows clues with his sister to try to find his cousin, after he goes missing on the London Eye! The children will use this novel to write their own tabloid newspaper report and a story episode with parallel narrators.

As well as these pieces of writing, Year 5 will also be using their experiences in York to write a persuasive guide about the city and writing an explanation text using a picture book they will be exploring during reading lessons. The second novel Year 5 will be reading this term is 'Orphans of the Tide' by Struan Murray – an exciting fantasy story!

Children should be reading at least three times a week at home. Encourage your child to read a wide range of age-appropriate books to work on developing their vocabulary and understanding. Talk about words they are unfamiliar with and try to use them in a range of contexts.

As children get older, they like to read independently. We would really encourage you to ask your child to read aloud to someone at least once a week to help with their fluency and prosody.

Ask your child about the class novel – are they enjoying the book? Who is their favourite character and why? What do they think is going to happen next?

Maths













**Decimals:** Tenths and hundredths as decimals and value of digits; partitioning, comparing and ordering numbers with tenths and hundredths; bridging the whole when adding and subtracting with tenths and hundredths; mental methods for addition and subtraction involving tenths and hundredths; column addition and subtraction involving tenths and hundredths; rounding numbers with tenths and hundredths; thousandths as decimals; partitioning, comparing and ordering numbers with thousandths; multiplying and dividing numbers with decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000; multiplying and dividing decimals by one-digit numbers.



**Factors, Multiples, Primes, Squares Cubes and Area:** Investigating multiples, common multiples, square numbers, factors, common factors, prime numbers and cube numbers; commutativity and multiplying three numbers; volume of cubes and cuboids.

**Fractions:** Repeated addition and multiplying fractions; non-unit fractions of amounts; equivalent fractions; common fractions and decimal equivalence.

It is vital that the children continue to be confident with their times tables. Please encourage them to keep practising at home – TTRockstars is a fun way to keep times tables fresh!

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| <p><b>Science</b></p>                    | <p><b>Life cycles of humans and animals:</b></p> <p>During the spring term, Year 5 will be learning about life processes and reproduction in animals, including humans. The children will recap their knowledge of the main animal groups and their characteristics. They will also compare life cycles of mammals, insects, amphibians and birds. The class will use their skills in working scientifically to make observations, predictions, and research.</p>  | <p>As we move into spring, children could observe the changes that are happening in the natural world. What evidence of new life can they see? Maybe they could observe what is happening in different habitats, either in your garden or when going out for a walk.</p>                                 |
| <p><b>History</b></p>                    | <p>This term, Year 5 will be exploring the achievements of Ancient Egypt. The topic will start by the children understanding how essential the River Nile was to the civilisation. The class will also explore the innovations in farming, the religious beliefs and how the Egyptians made major advancements in engineering, medicine and writing. They will look at how these discoveries from Ancient Egypt have shaped the modern world that we live in today.</p>  | <p>Can your child tell you any facts about Ancient Egypt – what was important to the civilisation and what discoveries did they make?</p>  |
| <p><b>Geography</b></p>                  | <p>The next geography topic for Year 5 will explore mountains. The children will understand more about how mountains are formed, what a mountain range is and where mountain ranges are located around the world. A focus for this topic will be the Rocky Mountains – learning where this mountain range is located, what biomes can be found in them and what natural resources the Rocky Mountains provide us with.</p>   | <p>Can your child tell you any facts they have learnt about mountains, especially the Rocky Mountains? Maybe they could point out some mountain ranges on a map?</p>   |
| <p><b>Art &amp; Design</b></p>          | <p>This term, the class will be developing their painting skills, with the theme of Seascapes. The children will be learning how to create texture using paint, how to create shadows and highlight and will experiment mixing complementary colours. They will then use their skills to create works inspired by the costal landscape. As part of this topic, the children will explore the artists Claude Monet, Hokusai and Emily Ward.</p>   | <p>The children could create their own coastal artworks at home using any artistic skill they like – painting, drawing, textiles, digital, or even sculpture! If you visit the seaside, they could also collect driftwood, shells or sea glass to bring to school and use to inspire their artworks.</p> |
| <p><b>Design &amp; Technology</b></p>  | <p>During the spring term, Year 5 will be focusing on cooking. They will follow recipes, make products and then taste and evaluate the products they have made. Through this topic, the children will learn different skills associated with cooking, such as measuring using scales and jugs, mixing ingredients and cracking eggs.</p>   | <p>Maybe your child could help you to cook at home? It might be fun to find a recipe and make something together!</p>  |
| <p><b>RE</b></p>                       | <p>The first RE unit Year 5 will be covering during the spring term answers the question ‘How is the Qur’an vital to Muslims today?’. The topic will develop the children’s understanding of how Muslims show respect to the Qur’an, how sayings from the Qur’an might be interpreted and how a Muslim’s interpretation of the Qur’an affect how they choose to live. The second RE unit for the spring term will be exploring how significant it is for Christians to believe that God intended Jesus to die.</p> | <p>Can your child tell you any further facts they have learned about Islam and Christianity? Are there any similarities or differences between the two religions?</p>  |

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| <p><b>PE</b></p>           | <p>During the first half term, the class will be developing their skills in dance and badminton. In dance, the children will be learning about the meaning of locomotor and non-locomotor movements, and how these movements can affect a dance routine. They will also be learning about the dance styles of Bollywood and line dance, and will have opportunities to choreograph, practise and perform their own routines. In badminton lessons, the class will be learning how to serve, how to control the shuttle over short distances and how to use footwork to move after shots. The sports the class will be focusing on during the second half term are hockey and gymnastics. Gymnastics lessons will focus on partner sequences, including using symmetry, asymmetry and performing counterbalances. Hockey lessons will develop the children's fast, accurate passes, use of the one-handed dribble to keep possession within a game and marking attackers to stop them from receiving the ball.</p> | <p>Please ensure that your child remembers to bring their PE kit and a water bottle every Thursday. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so appropriate clothing is essential.</p>   |
| <p><b>PSHE</b></p>         | <p>The first topic in PSHE will be 'What makes a community?'. The class will be investigating what it means to be part of a community, and what benefits and responsibilities come with being part of a community. They will also be studying and comparing familiar communities with communities in a non-European culture. This links to the Fundamental British Value of mutual respect and tolerance.</p> <p>The second PSHE topic in the spring term will be addressing the topic of 'What are healthy choices?'. The class will talk about how to look after their minds and bodies, as well as learning about the risks associated with some unhealthy choices, including alcohol and drugs. The children will also look at how the way they look after their physical health can also impact their mental health.</p>   | <p>Support your child at home by providing a safe and supportive space for them to talk openly about anything we discuss in PSHE, which they may wish to talk about with you.</p>  |
| <p><b>Music</b></p>      | <p>This year, the children will be developing their skills in reading music and playing brass instruments. This will be led by the Durham Music Service. They will be listening carefully to each other's performances and offering helpful feedback. Once a week, the children will be part of a singing assembly where they will learn about the dimensions and genres of music, and learn songs from different genres, and songs linked to our school values.</p>  | <p>Discuss music with your child when you listen to it, asking about what they can hear. Ask your child to share our songs with you and enjoy them together.</p>   |
| <p><b>Computing</b></p>  | <p>This term in computing lessons, the children will learn about spreadsheets and databases, exploring how to use them and then creating them for a purpose. They will also develop their word processing skills using Microsoft Word.</p>  | <p>Children will be able to access Purple Mash at home and can try out some of their new skills when they are set for them as a 2Do. They could also practise typing on Microsoft Word.</p> <p>Continue to talk to them about online safety, encouraging open conversations about what they access online.</p> |

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| <p><b>French</b></p>                             | <p>In French, the children will be learning vocabulary about days and dates. They will then learn some vocabulary to describe their homes.</p>  | <p>Can your child tell you any of the words or phrases that they have been learning in French? Why not sign up to Duolingo to help your child learn French? <a href="https://www.duolingo.com/">https://www.duolingo.com/</a></p> |
| <p><b>Trips, Experiences and Enrichment</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Captain Chemistry workshop (science)</li> <li>• Number Day (maths)</li> <li>• VR workshop at Darlington Library (English)</li> <li>• Trip to Durham Cathedral on the train (enrichment)</li> <li>• World Book Day (English)</li> <li>• York (residential)</li> </ul> |   |

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork** and **Ambition**.  
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.