



### English

We will start the new year exploring the classic narrative poem, 'The Highwayman' through drama; producing a range of writing genres inspired by this. We will also be finding out all about Sir William Shakespeare and studying his tragic love story, 'Romeo and Juliet'. In addition to this, we will be reading and writing a range of non-fiction texts based on our History and Geography topics. (See below). Short stories from the book 'Survivors' by David Long will also supplement our topic work and inspire writing journeys.

Our main focuses in writing will be using increasingly adventurous vocabulary and imagery, varying sentence structure and using sophisticated punctuation, e.g. dashes for parenthesis, semi-colons and ellipses. Similarly, in reading our focuses will be empathy and inference. There will be enjoyable reading homework to complement class skills. There will be weekly comprehension activities linked to the work we do or current affairs, and a weekly Reciprocal Read.

SPAG will continue to be embedded into the curriculum with focused lessons and weekly homework; daily 'Super Sentence' challenges supplement stand-alone work. We will be looking to see these good 'English' skills deployed across the curriculum.

### Mathematics

This term we will be focusing mainly on written methods for multiplication and division, tackling a range of Fractions, Decimals and Percentages problems and working on Area and Perimeter. Within each of these topics, the children will become fluent and asked to problem-solve and reason with the maths in verbal and written form. We will also be encouraging the children to represent their maths with models and images to ensure a deeper understanding of each concept.

There will be daily times tables activities and a times table per week will be tested on a Friday. Although time is spent working on multiplication and division facts during school time, it is imperative that the children practise these at home, too, as the Year 5 curriculum depends on knowing them well.

'Memory Jogger' Fridays will continue, where children will consolidate a range of arithmetic and reasoning skills.

There is a strong focus on active participation, collaborative work and enjoyment in order to get the best out of the children. We often incorporate active and practical activities into our lessons. Homework will be weekly and will be arithmetic /number-biased.

### Creative Curriculum

**Science**—Forces.

**Computing**—Programming (Scratch); Animation; Google Earth.

**P.E.**— Cricket; Tennis; Circuit Training; Athletics.

**R.E.**—Christianity/The Easter Story.

**Music**—Improvising and composing music to represent Earth; Musical Minds Ukulele lessons

**Geography**—Active Planet.

**History**—Tudors and Stuarts.

**Art and Design**—Earthquake-proof structures; Representing volcanoes through different media,

**MFL**—Spanish.

**PSHE**— SEAL units: 'Say No To Bullying' and 'Going for Goals'; Mindfulness



### Thinking and Learning Skills in Year 5

As well as the thinking and learning that goes on automatically in lessons, we will be particularly focusing on the following life skills:

Mindfulness (e.g. calming strategies, yoga and meditation); empathy for others (often through our reading work but also in Thoughtful Thursday activities and Circle Time); being creative, imaginative and original in activities like Fantasy Friday — as we often say to the children, think outside the box and try to think of something no-one else has! We also expect more and more resilience and willingness to learn from mistakes and stick at a task!

### Additional Information

Year 5 will be receiving specialist cricket coaching from Cheshire Cricket Club - these sessions will take place on Thursday afternoons later in the term. We will also have Mr. Donelan for Gymnastics lessons on Fridays, commencing in January. Normal P.E. kits (including warmer outdoor clothing) should be in school at all times, as our PE days may change throughout the term.

The homework timetable is the same as the Autumn term. We appreciate your continued support with this, helping the children to take responsibility for it.