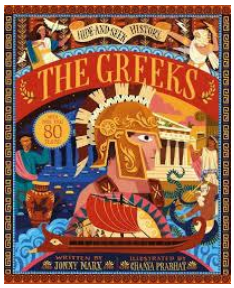
Spring Term in Year 5 (2025/2026)

Topic

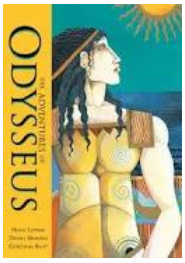


History - Spring 1

This half-term, our focus will be on History. We will be learning about Ancient Greece. This links perfectly with our class novel. We will learn about how Ancient Greece developed as a great civilisation. We will use primary sources to learn about how Ancient Greeks lived and what they believed. We will focus on their achievements, and their lasting impact, covering daily life, city-states (Athens vs. Sparta), democracy, mythology, the Olympics, key figures (like Alexander the Great), and geographical features, while developing historical skills like timeline placement, source analysis, and comparing past and present. Key goals include recognising legacies like democracy and philosophy and architecture.

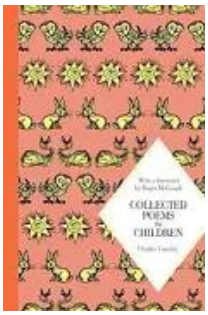
Geography - Spring 2

After half-term, our topic will be Rivers. Our objectives will focus on understanding the river's journey from source to mouth. We will study some key physical/human features (meanders, settlements. Children will develop their understanding of the water cycle. They will learn about erosion and deposition. We will also think about why rivers are important (biodiversity, water, transport), and human impacts like pollution & conservation. Year 5 will use fieldwork, maps, and global examples (Thames, Nile) to build geographical skills.



English - Spring 1

We will study The Adventures of Odysseus. We will use role play to make inferences about a character's actions and motives, as well as developing our comprehension answers. We will learn more about summarising texts. We will write letters from a character's point of view, as well as complete diary entries. After reading the chapter about the cyclops, we will rewrite the chapter from the cyclops point of view. We will also add to the adventures of Odysseus by writing our own adventure for the crew, using the language of Greek myths and the plot devices. Other writing includes a persuasive piece about the deadly choice Odyssesu has to make between the Scylla and the Charybdis. We will also use non-fiction books to research Ancient Greece and write fact files and reports linked to History.



English - Spring 2

Our English lessons will be focussing on the poetry of Charles Causley - Causley bridges the gap between simple, fun poetry and more profound literary exploration, making him an ideal choice for Year 5 to develop their reading comprehension and love for language. His poems are rhyming and have a musical quality - they are often narratives with themes that the children can recognise. Even though they are often simple to read, there are layers of depth for the children to recognise. We will analyse his poetry in various ways. We will write our own poetry including response poems. We will also write letters to characters in the poems, as well as devise an imaginary healthy eating plan. We will also study the book Greenling in Spring 2 - This is a short story about the power of nature, fear of the unknown, community, and humans being part of, not separate from, the environment. We will be studying different points of view and the author's use of language. We will also identify idioms. In writing we will develop an argument text about whether we should reduce our use of technology.

Maths

We continue to use our White Rose Maths scheme teaching a mastery approach using concrete, pictorial, and abstract methods to develop deeper understanding. We will continue learning about multiplication and division and continue to develop our written methods of calculation. We will also focus on solving multi- step problems using these methods. In fractions - we will learn how to find a fraction of an amount and begin to learn how to multiply fractions. We will develop our understanding of decimals - up to thousandths. We will learn how to compare fractions and decimals. We will learn how to order decimals up to three decimal places. Later in the term, we will study perimeter and area of rectangles and compound shapes. We will also learn about statistics including line graphs and timetables.

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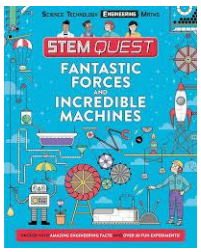
Science - Spring 1

In Science we will continue to study materials. Children will learn that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. They will use their knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. Pupils will be asked to give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic.



Science - Spring 2 – We will focus on forces this term and pupils will be able to explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. We will identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces. We will conduct a fair test in connection with friction. Pupils will also recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. We will experiment with gears and levers in class and develop confidence when taking measurements, making tables and drawing graphs as part of our observations.

Religious Education - Spring 1

In RE, we will follow the Religious Education Directory: *To Know You More Clearly*. Our theme for Spring 1 is Galilee to Jerusalem. Children will learn about the importance of the Beatitudes. They will compare Matthew and Luke's description of the new law, or great commandment and make links between the new law, a parable and Jesus' summary of the law. Pupils will make simple links between the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments. They will describe accurately in sequence and detail what the disciples see at the Transfiguration, saying something about the importance of Moses and Elijah. They will also learn how to make links between the seven petitions (requests) of the Our Father and their meaning for Christians and show understanding of the virtue of either hope or charity (love). We will be linking this topic to Catholic Social Teaching of Solidarity and Peace.

Religious Education - Spring 2

Our theme is Desert to Garde. Pupils will be asked to explain what happens at the Ash Wednesday Mass and how Christians mark this day, using religious vocabulary to describe symbols and actions. They will taught how to make links between the Ash Wednesday readings and Lent as a time when Christians reflect on their sins and listen to God's call to return to him. Pupils will describe some ways Christians act to answer that call in Lent, including the importance of prayer. They will also describe how Catholics define sin, making links with the Ten Commandments and Jesus' great commandment as guides for a good life They will know that the Rosary is a prayerful reflection on the life of Christ and explain what the sorrowful mysteries remember. In Catholic Social Teaching, we will be studying the theme of Community and Participation.