Orchard Primary School

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2 (2026)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had yet another wonderful half term at Orchard and Year 5 have been working incredibly hard. We hope that everyone has a restful break and enjoys some sunshine.

As we look ahead to our final half term in Year 5, it is important that the children get straight back into their routines: reading at home on a daily basis, recording in their home school diary, completing homework and learning their spellings each week.

Please see the information on the other side of this leaflet to support you when helping your child at home. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions; we are available to talk after school on most days.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

The Year 5 Team

Dates for your diary

Key dates including class assemblies, enrichment days/events and coffee mornings can be found on our school website calendar or on our parent dates letter sent out at the beginning of every half term.

Trips take place each half term and are planned to support the half termly learning. A separate letter is sent to inform you of details for upcoming class trips. These are also added to the school's website calendar.

PE

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on their timetabled PE days. It is advised that your child keeps their kit in school throughout the week in case of any timetable changes. Children must have a full PE kit (a white t-shirt, green or black shorts and plimsolls) to ensure personal hygiene and safety.

PE Days:

- Holly Class - Monday
- Poplar Class - Monday
- Elder Class - Monday

Homework

Children in Year 5 should spend a set time each day completing homework to ensure good routine. This should include:

- The weekly literacy and numeracy tasks which will be set on Thursday and are to be returned the following Monday.
- Reading home reading book for 15 minutes each evening (please sign the diary to show this has been completed).
- Learning times tables to 12 x 12.
- Learning weekly spellings which will be set on Thursday and tested the following Wednesday.
- Accessing the home learning sites, Times Tables Rockstars and Mathletics.

Literacy

As writers, we will be developing our discussion writing, with a focus on formulating and presenting a side of an argument. We will also be writing reports around our geography unit: Rivers and the Water Cycle.

Maths

As mathematicians, we will be consolidating our understanding of the four operations. We will also learn how to convert between measures. Finally, we will develop our understanding of specific number facts such as prime and square numbers.

Science

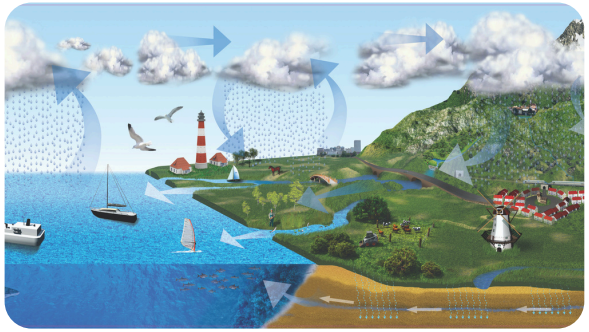
As scientists, we will be learning about forces in more detail. We will be moving on from the basic idea of push and pull to understanding how this contributes to air resistance when jumping with a parachute, how water resistance can both help and hinder and how levers can be used to lift heavy objects with ease.

Recommended Reads

- Journey to the River Sea - Eva Ibbotson.
- Floodland - Marcus Sedgwick.

Music

Our topic this half term is 'Film music': listening and composing.



RE & PSHCE

RE: What do Hindus believe about death and reincarnation?

PSHCE: Changes.

ICT

Espresso: Computer Science.

Art and Design Technology

In Food Tehnology, we will be exploring ways of baking healthy snacks. We will be exploring healthy options to make sweet, delicious biscuits, without lots of added sugars.

Geography

As geographers, we will be learning about Rivers and the Water Cycle. We will be finding out about the location of key rivers and the journey they take from source to mouth. We will also develop our understanding of the water cycle and how this results in a continual flow of water on Earth.

Physical Education (PE)

In athletics, we will be learning a wide range of new skills. We will be running for longer, jumping and throwing further and eventually we will be holding a mini Olympic tournament.