



Summer Term 2024 Curriculum Newsletter

YEAR 5

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday. We are excited to see you again for the final term of Year 5.

Literacy

Our whole school text, *Zeraffa Giraffa*, will lead us through an enchanting narrative of friendship, adventure, and cultural exchange. Alongside our whole school text, we will delve into the intriguing world of *Boy in the Tower*. This text will allow pupils to engage with contemporary issues and develop empathy for diverse characters.

Our literacy curriculum will integrate with the Design and Technology (DT) topic of making chocolate. Pupils will follow instructions, write procedures, and create informative texts related to the chocolate-making process, applying their literacy skills in a practical context.

Pupils will craft explanation texts in the form of an explorer's guide. Drawing inspiration from adventure narratives, pupils will utilise descriptive language, sequential organisation, and technical vocabulary to inform and engage their audience.

We finish the year with an exploration of poetry that will centre around the epic poem *Beowulf*. Through studying this classic piece of literature, pupils will analyse poetic devices, explore themes of heroism and bravery, and develop their own expressive and creative writing skills in the poetic form.

Mathematics

During this term, pupils will develop the ability to estimate, compare, and measure angles of various shapes. They will also learn to identify unknown angles, calculate the perimeter of shapes, and use both mental and written methods for mathematical operations.

Additionally, pupils will work on solving complex problems that involve scaling by fractions and rates, and they will master the conversion of Imperial and Metric Units. The term will also focus on enhancing skills in working with fractions, decimals, and percentages.

Pupils will practice reading and interpreting timetables, calculating time durations accurately, recognising different types of polygons including regular and irregular ones, and understanding the properties of rectangles.

Furthermore, pupils will be exposed to real-world data analysis by solving problems using line graphs, interpreting information from various charts and tables, and engaging with Roman Numerals.

Geography

This term, students will study volcanoes, exploring their formation, types, eruptions, distribution, and impact on the environment. Through activities and experiments, students will understand the significant role Volcanoes play in shaping the Earth's landscapes.



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History

Throughout the term, Year 5 students will delve deeply into the fascinating topic of the Anglo-Saxons. They will immerse themselves in understanding the intricacies of the Anglo-Saxon migration patterns, the establishment of their kingdoms, and the far-reaching impact of the Vikings on this early English society.

Computing

Throughout the term, students will have the opportunity to explore the fundamentals of databases, including how to input and organise data effectively. They will also be taught how to view and edit records within a database, gaining practical skills that can be applied to real-world scenarios.

Pupils will discover how different types of information can be categorised and stored within fields, thus developing a deeper comprehension of data management.

Art

Students will study sculptors Henry Moore and Alberto Giacometti, exploring their work and lives. They will create observational sketches of human figures using charcoal, sketching pencils, and colouring pencils. Emphasis will be on accurate proportions and light/shadow effects.

Students will analyse Moore's large-scale sculptures, focusing on mass, volume, material, and gravity. Comparatively, they will investigate Giacometti's unique approach to sculpture.

Through simple line sketches, students will explore different drawing styles inspired by Moore and Giacometti. They will also create human figures using pipe cleaners and tin foil based on photographs, reflecting on their work and influences.

Design and Technology (DT)

Students will delve into the intricacies of chocolate production by exploring the key ingredients and processes involved. They will conduct tastings and evaluations to understand the sensory aspects of chocolate, gaining insight into its nutritional value and implications for a healthy balanced diet.

Students will engage in the design process to create a new chocolate bar, leveraging their knowledge of existing products to generate innovative ideas. They will articulate the purpose of their product and identify their target audience, ensuring that their design caters to specific preferences.

By crafting a detailed recipe and ingredient list, students will demonstrate their consideration of appearance, taste, texture, and aroma, tailored to suit the intended audience. Following hygienic practices, they will prepare and assemble their chocolate bar before conducting taste tests and evaluations to refine their product further.

Moreover, students will explore the impact of packaging on product presentation and preservation. By analysing existing packaging designs and designing their own, complete with



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unique branding and ingredient lists, they will understand how packaging influences consumer perception and product freshness.

Science

In Year 5, students will delve into the fascinating world of materials and their properties in science. They will explore why specific materials are utilised for jobs based on their unique characteristics. By comparing and categorising everyday materials according to properties such as hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (both electrical and thermal), and responsiveness to magnets, children will develop a deeper understanding of how materials are selected for different tasks.

Through conducting comparative and fair tests, pupils will be able to justify the uses of various everyday materials such as metals, wood, and plastic. They will identify materials that dissolve in water and those that do not, recognising that even though dissolved solids are not visible, they remain within the solution.

Additionally, students will learn about the processes of melting and dissolving, supporting their understanding with real-world examples. They will investigate the factors influencing the rate at which a solid dissolve and discover how to separate an undissolved solid from a liquid using filtration.

Moreover, children will comprehend that a solid can be recuperated from a solution through evaporation and describe the properties of mixtures that can be separated via filtration. They will also explore various methods used for separating simple mixtures, elucidating that when solids dissolve, they disintegrate into particles small enough to pass through filter paper.

Physical Education (PE)

Year 5 will resume their weekly swimming lessons at the Laura Trott centre. We are lucky to have a sports coach from GC Sports who will teach the class this term. Our PE days are on **Monday and Wednesday**. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Students will be taking part in a variety of enriching workshops and trips to enhance their learning experience. One significant event will be the upcoming STEM workshop focused on changing materials. This workshop will provide students with hands-on activities and experiments to understand the properties of different materials and how they can undergo changes through various processes.

Among the most exciting upcoming trips will be the visit to the STEM Discovery Centre in Stevenage. This centre will offer our students a stimulating environment to explore the concepts we have learned throughout the year, such as space, robotics, and forces. The children will have the opportunity to engage in interactive exhibits, workshops, and demonstrations that will bring these topics to life.



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Homework

Homework is still topic based and children will have various activities to complete over the course of the half term. Some of these will be creative, some will be online, and others may be written tasks.

Mr Bargery (**Class Teacher**)

Mr Dixon (**Teaching Assistant**)