



Year 5 Newsletter

Spring 1—2025/2026



Notices and Reminders

- PE will continue on Thursdays
- Please ensure children have well-stocked pencil cases containing writing pencils, up to 12 colouring pencils, blue handwriting pens, a green pen, one highlighter, one ruler and black whiteboard pens.
- Our school library is fully operational and we look forward to the children changing their books each week on a Wednesday.

Reading

This half term, the children will be continuing to read *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson, an engaging novel set in the Amazon. As Maia's story develops, the children will be exploring new challenges and characters she encounters. They will be continuing to build key reading skills, including inference, prediction, and language analysis, while deepening their understanding of how the author creates atmosphere and brings the setting to life.



Key dates

5th January - Inset day
6th January - 1st Day of Spring term 1
23rd January - FOG - Break the Rules Day
10th February – BG and DA - Trip to The Living Rainforest
11th February - FOG School Disco
13th February - Last day of Spring term 1
16th - 20th February - Half Term
17th - 23rd March - Book Fair
27th March - Last day of Spring term 2



Writing

This half term, the children will enhance their grammar skills by exploring coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. They will learn how these conjunctions help to extend sentences. Additionally, the children will continue to study a range of morphemes to support their spelling. This will deepen their understanding of word structure, meaning, and how patterns can facilitate accurate spelling.

In composition lessons, the children will complete their "Tales of Fear" stories. Later in the term, they will write a story based on a warning tale.

Maths

The children will be learning to complete long multiplication calculations up to 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, short division calculations with 4-digit numbers, dividing with remainders and solving multiplication and division problems. The children will then move on to a new fraction unit where they will learn how to multiply fractions by an integer and calculate fractions of an amount.

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$$\frac{2}{7} \times 3$$

Science

In science, the children will be continuing to learn about changes in materials. They will be planning a fair test to determine how the temperature of water affects the speed at which sugar dissolves.

Near the end of the term, the children will begin their unit on Earth and space.



Geography

In geography the children will be learning about the effects of deforestation on the Amazon Rainforest. They will explore the differences between biomes before learning about the geography of South America. The children will focus their studies on

Brazil, learning about both the physical and human geography.



Art

In art, the children will be creating their own mixed media painting, drawing on inspiration from the artwork of Vincent Van Gogh, Njideka Akunyili Crosby and Frida Kahlo. They will be learning about colour, tints and tones, as well as creating texture through paint.



PE

In P.E. this half term, the children will be learning gymnastics. They will look at which different types of rolls they know including how to perform a backwards roll. The children will also be learning how to perform a handstand and a cartwheel.



Music

In music, the children will learn about the terms 'melody' and 'harmony'. They will enhance their understanding by listening to and responding to gospel and orchestral music. Additionally, they will further develop their skills in playing either the recorder or the glockenspiel.



PSHE

By examining the various ways we can communicate in the modern world, the children will be looking to become better communicators. They will be spending time learning how to communicate safely with others across various media.



French

In French this term, the children will be learning how to say and write different stationery items that can be found at school.

They will be building their understanding of silent letters in French and know which version of 'my' to use when talking about different items.



Suggested books for reading

