

# Year 5 Newsletter

## Autumn 1—2025/2026

### Reading

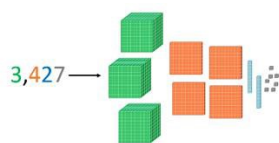
KS2 has moved to a new reading approach where children take part in daily whole class reading lessons. During these lessons, children will be read to, they will read aloud and they will read independently to themselves. Children will explore vocabulary, build on their reading fluency and discuss key themes to further develop a love for reading. We are still committed to ensuring every child reads with an adult at least once a week. Your child's reading record will be stamped to show when they have read to an adult. This half term, the children are reading 'Where the Mountain Meets the Moon' by Grace Lin. This is a fantasy adventure inspired by Chinese folklore, which tells of the quest of the protagonist (Minli) to change her family's fortune.

### Writing

This half term, the children are learning to write persuasively through a text called 'The Spider and the Fly' by Tony DiTerlizzi. In these lessons, the children will look closer at the use of figurative language and persuasive techniques to engage their readers. After this, they will be learning the story of 'Zelda Claw' through our Talk For Writing approach. As a result, the children will be writing a suspense story.

### Maths

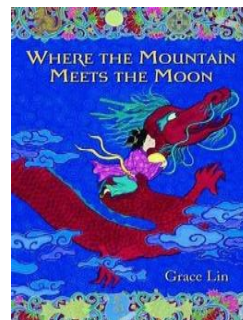
In maths this half term, the children are learning about place value, exploring the composition of numbers in a variety of representations. The children will also be learning both mental and formal written methods of addition and subtraction, moving onto multiplication at the end of the half term.



### Key Dates

- 19th September—Meet the Teacher meetings
- 10th October—Art Week Showcase for parents
- 1st October—Ticket to Antarctica begins
- 17th October—Science Oxford trip

### Whole Class Reading



### Class Read



### Suggested Books for Reading



## Science

In science this half term, the children's enquiry question is 'What are the properties of materials?'. In this unit, they will be using their growing knowledge to identify and classify materials using their properties. They will plan and conduct several investigations to understand this further.

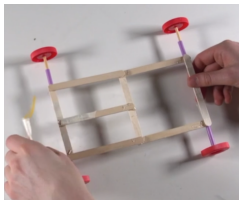


## Geography

In Geography this half term, the children will be comparing London to Bracknell. To do this successfully, the children will use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and keys to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world. They will also look at the human and physical features in both London and our local area using a range of methods.

## DT

In DT this half term, the children will be learning to build a slingshot car chassis. They will be using a range of materials and following instructions to make the chassis of a car and the slingshot launch mechanism, as well as learning that their slingshot cars work by storing kinetic energy in the elastic band before it launches.



## PE



In indoor PE this half term, the children will be developing and applying ball skills, as well as improving their reactions and responses through focused skill development sessions.

In outdoor PE this half term, the topic is tag rugby. Here, they will be looking to improve and build on skills learnt in previous years. These include throwing, special awareness and learning the rules for the game.

## RE



In RE this half term, the children will be looking at Humanism. They will learn to understand Humanism as a non-religious worldview. They will look at famous people who may be role-models to Humanists and how their words or actions correlate to Humanist beliefs. Children will understand that Humanists try to live by the "Golden Rule" which is "Treat other people as you would like them to treat you".

## Music



In music this half term, the children are learning composition notation using the music of Ancient Egypt. The skills they will learn are to improvise their own piece of music, identify the structure of a piece of music, play a melody using staff notation and to perform with confidence and in time with others.

## French

In French this half term, the children will be looking at 'As-tu un animal?' which translates to 'Do you have a pet?'. The children will build upon previous years' knowledge and vocabulary in order to converse with their peers to discuss pets which they may own or hope to own one day.



## PSHE



In PSHE, our topic is 'Being Me In My World'. In this topic, the children will learn how to face challenges positively; what it means to have rights and responsibilities; how everyone has the right to learn; the affect that choices can have upon rewards and consequences; how to work well with others; and the positive benefits to democracy and having a voice. Throughout this topic, the children will explore values, hopes and feelings.