

# Year 5 Newsletter

## Autumn 2—2025/2026

### Reading

This half term, the children are continuing their reading of 'Where the Mountain Meets the Moon' by Grace Lin. So far, the main character, Minli, has left her home in search of fortune for her family. The children have really enjoyed following her journey learning all about Chinese customs. They have practiced oral and written comprehension, looking at the skills of retrieval and inference. They have shown empathy for the characters and enjoyed making predictions.

### Writing

This half term, the children are learning a text called 'Smaug'. Here, they will build on skills taught in Zelda Claw in order to write a quest story. After this, they will learn the non-fiction writing skills of newspaper writing through a topic called Dragon Attack. Grammar foci will include direct speech, adjectives/noun phrases and the use of time adverbials to guide and inform our readers.

### Maths

In maths this half term, the children will be building on their knowledge of the multiplication tables to learn formal written methods of multiplication and division. Once this knowledge is secure, they will apply this learning to understanding fractions.

$$\begin{array}{r} 172 \times 5 \\ \times \quad 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5 × 2

$$\begin{array}{r} 172 \\ \times \quad 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5 × 70

$$\begin{array}{r} 172 \\ \times \quad 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5 × 100

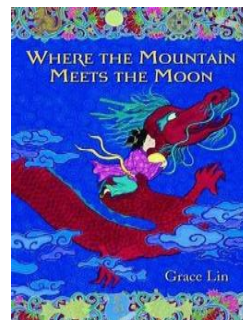
$$\begin{array}{r} 172 \\ \times \quad 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

### Key Dates

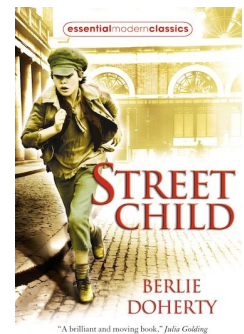
Date TBC—Fire Safety Talk

7th November—Year 5 Cake Sale

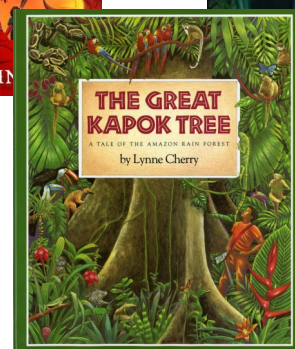
### Whole Class Reading



### Class Read



### Suggested Books for Reading



## Science

In science this half term, the topic is 'Earth and Space' and the children's main enquiry question is 'How do shadows change throughout the day?'. In this unit, they will build on prior learning to understand the movement of different astronomical objects in space and understand how this impacts Earth. In addition, children will learn about notable astronomers through history.

## Geography

In Geography, the children will be exploring the question: 'What are different effects of deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest?' Here, they will learn how the removal of trees results in greenhouse gases being released, as well as a decrease in oxygen; they will learn about the Amazon Rainforest and the animals and plants who call it home; and understand the impact that deforestation has on them.

## Art

In Art this half term, the children will be looking at landscapes and how they can draw them using tone, shape and texture. They will also look at Frida Kahlo and her contributions to surrealism before creating their very own surrealist landscapes.



## PE



In indoor PE this half term, the children will be doing dance. In this unit, the children will learn and develop shapes and circles and create sequences of movement with these through partnering and artistry.

In outdoor PE this half term, the topic is hockey. The children will learn to work as a team to dribble the ball in different directions and to pass, move, mark, tackle and score in a game.

## RE

In RE this half term, the children will be looking at Christianity through the theme of incarnation. The enquiry question will be: Is the Christmas story true. In this unit, they will understand how there might be different versions of events which are all true to some extent and to some people; retell a version of the Christmas story from the bible; compare versions of this story; and reason around Christian beliefs.



## Music



In music this half term, the children are completing two units: Blues and South and West Africa. In Blues, children will learn key features of blues music, sing using vocal expression to convey meaning, play the chord of C, play the 12-bar blues and play the notes of the blues scale in and out of order. In South and west Africa, they will sing a traditional African song, play percussion instruments and perform skills.

## French

In French this half term, the children will be looking at "What is the Date?" (Quelle est la date aujourd'hui?) which involves learning how to ask and answer the date in French, including months, days of the week, and numbers, as well as asking about birthdays. The children will learn to say the date, create a French calendar, and recognize key French dates.



## PSHE

In PSHE, the topic is 'Celebrating Differences'. In this unit, the children explore culture and cultural differences, linking this to racism, talking about what it is and how to be aware of their own feelings towards people from different cultures. They revisit the topic of bullying, both direct and indirect. Finally, they will talk about happiness regardless of material wealth and respecting other people's cultures.