



Year 5 Newsletter

Summer 1—2025/2026



Reading

This half term, we will be beginning our new reading text 'Macbeth' by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross. In this retelling of the classic Shakespeare story, the children will follow the story with witches, murder and madness. The language used makes this version of Macbeth accessible to a younger audience. The children will continue to work on their fluency of reading: working on speed and comprehension.



Key Dates

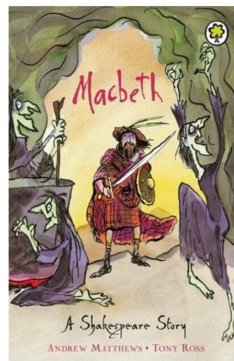
- 15th April—South Hill Park trip
- 19th May—Oracy Workshop—Macbeth

Writing

This half term, the children will be writing a non-chronological report about an ancient civilisation which will be explored in History. In the build up to this, they will study an information text to learn the key features before having a go at creating one as a class. Using all that they've learnt in history and English, they will orally rehearse their own Benin information text before writing and publishing it.

Whole Class

Reading

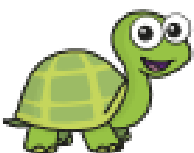


Class Read

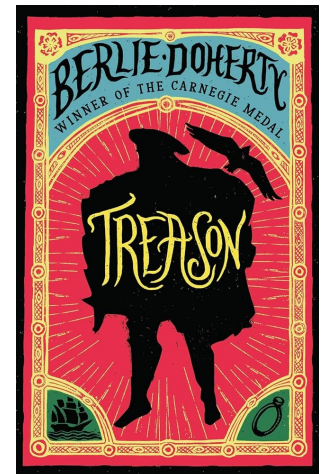
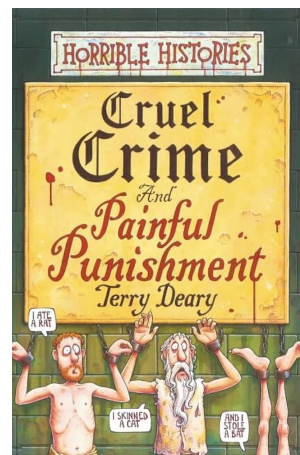


Maths

In maths this half term, the children will be building on their knowledge of shape, position and direction in their first two units. Following this, the children will return to looking at decimals, focusing on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing with decimal numbers. We will also be revising and consolidating all of our arithmetic skills.



Suggested Books for Reading



Science / PSHE

This half term, our science and PSHE sessions will be combined as we look at the topic of 'Animals including humans' in science and 'Changing Me' in PSHE. Across these subjects, we will delve into two Big Questions: 'Do larger animals have longer gestation periods?' and 'How does a baby grow?'. In the science lessons, the children will study how humans change as they age, all about adolescence and how different animals have different gestation periods. These sessions will be supported in PSHE where we look at self and body image, puberty in girls and boys and conception. We will end by looking at what is to come for the children, thinking about what positive things they can look forward to as they grow into their teenage years and begin to become more responsible.



Art

In Art this half term, the children will be looking at sculptures. First, they will learn about our focus artist, Esther Mahlangu, before moving on to study Tingatinga artwork. Using what they have learnt, they will create a clay-based sculpture linked to artefacts of Benin but using the styles they have seen in their initial art sessions. We will be taking the children on a trip to South Hill Park to study local sculptures for inspiration.

History

In history, the children will be studying a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history. For this, we will look at Benin. Our Big Question will be 'What role did the expansion of the British Empire have on the Kingdom of Benin?'. They will learn how Benin began, what life was like in the Kingdom of Benin and how the Benin Empire came to an end. We will also link our art and writing to this topic.

RE

In RE this half term, the children's enquiry question is: What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God? In this unit, the children look at the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies, reflecting on how these ceremonies mark becoming an adult for Jewish people. Key words we will look at include: Tenakh, Torah, prayer, synagogue, Bar/Bar Mitzvah, Shabbat and Mitvoth.



PE



In indoor PE this half term, the children will develop and apply their sending and receiving and ball chasing skills through a range of games. In outdoor PE, they will be learning to play Tri-Golf. The learning for this focuses on developing accurate putting, chipping for height, and controlled driving for distance, aiming to build confidence, technique, and sportsmanship.

French

In French this half term, the topic is Les vêtements (Clothes). By the end of this unit, pupils will have the knowledge and skills necessary to describe what they are wearing in French by colour. This is a unit that brings together much of the grammar covered in our previous learning so that pupils can express what they are wearing in full sentences in different scenarios in French.

Computing

This half term, the children will be learning about data handling. This will lead on from their learning on networks in Spring 2. They will gain an understanding of databases: learning what they are, how to search and retrieve information (using filtering to refine their search) from various databases and visually compare data using different charts and graphs.