

09.1.2026



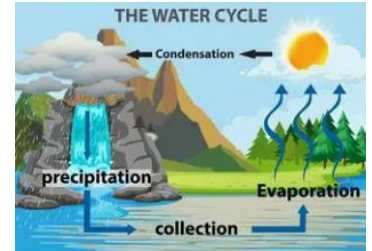
Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you enjoyed your Christmas holiday break. Thank you very much for your generous gifts at the end of last term.

There has been a change in support staffing in Year 5. This means we will now be supported by Mrs Rocket, Miss Kelly and Miss McCulloch.

Topic

Topic this half term will be Geography and we will be focusing on the water cycle & rivers. We will learn the process of the water cycle and what the features of a river system are. We will also locate key rivers on a map (UK and worldwide) and consider the uses of rivers as well as the impact of flooding.



English

Our class book is 'The Wanderer,' by Peter Van Den Ende. It is a wordless book promoting lots of retrieval and inference as well as analysis of authorial choice. The book is a great stimulus for eliciting some super descriptive language too. Once a week we will also run joint English workshops, based on the book, with the Year 6 class.



Maths

We will begin the half term with adding and subtracting fractions. After this we will move on to formal written methods of multiplication and division.



Science

First we will finish our unit on The Solar System. Then we will begin to learn about the properties of materials. We will:

- test materials for magnetism, transparency and hardness
- test materials for electrical conductivity
- plan, investigate and evaluate an insulating heat experiment
- explore uses of everyday materials – plastic, wood and metal



PE

This half term PE will be twice a week: Tuesday afternoons **and Friday mornings**. We will be doing gymnastics with Fisical and also thinking about health and fitness, which will involve some circuit training. Please remember to send your child in PE kit on **Tuesdays and Fridays**.

French

Year 5 will focus on the family this half term, learning to talk about siblings, using the relative pronoun, 'qui'. We will also take some time to revise work from last term on personal pronouns and regular verbs, as well as the 'basics' learned in previous years.



RE

The class will continue to learn about what Christians believe about the old and new covenant.

Art

We will be creating some cave art using charcoal.

Computing

We will continue with our 3D game design. After this we will begin our coding unit where the class will program a simulation.

Music

This term is all about music and words. The children will brush up their Italiano, improvise musical conversations and compose music inspired by poetry. Through creative listening activities, the children will learn to represent expressive features of music in graphic score and then use musical vocabulary to describe their creations.



PSHE

First aid is our unit of learning this PSHE week. We will learn some basic first aid skills for dealing with burns and scalds, cuts and nosebleeds. We will also learn how to manage an asthma attack and an allergic reaction and what steps to take in a medical emergency.



HOME LEARNING:

- **Maths**: this is optional Maths homework which will reinforce the learning from the school week. Homework day is a **Wednesday**. Homework will be self-marked and then new homework handed out first thing on Wednesday mornings.
- **Reading**: Please encourage your child to read as often as possible and to record what they have read in their reading record. Reading aloud to an adult is still beneficial for all levels of readers in KS2. Reading records will be checked every **Wednesday**.
- **A half term project**: will be handed out next week and will be due in on **Wednesday 18th March** for a Home learning gallery – all parents and carers invited.
- **1/2 termly homework sheets for English and Maths**: will be handed out next week to help your child practise key facts and skills at home.

Finally, if you have any expertise in our area of learning this half term, please let us know or bring it in to share with the class.

Likewise, if you have any queries or wish to discuss any issues regarding your child's learning or well-being, please do not hesitate to contact any of the year 5 team.

Best wishes,
Year 5 team.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 17th January: Addingham Cross Country event

Wednesday 28th January: Young Voices concert

Saturday 30th January: Ashlands Cross Country event

Tuesday 3rd February: parent workshops

Monday 16th February: School closes for half term break

Monday 23rd February: School opens and Year 5 & 6 trip to Nell Bank