



Year 5 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2026/27



We hope that you all had a wonderful, well-earned Summer break!
This newsletter will provide you with information on the half term ahead. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Year 5 Team:	
5DB	Daniel Bird
5ND	Nicola Dickson

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Geography - Our topic this half term is The United Kingdom!

We will be learning about the names of different countries and cities of the United Kingdom as well as exploring different geographic regions and their human and physical characteristics. Children use maps, atlases, globes, digital mapping and ordnance surveys to build their knowledge. You will also be receiving this term's topic homework and knowledge organiser via email.

If you would like a paper version, your child can ask their class teacher.

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English - Our first unit of writing this half term will be based around the book *The Lost Thing*. During this unit we will revisit key skills from Year 4. For example, noun phrases, adverbials, punctuation and relative clauses. The themes we will draw out from the book are those of belonging, individuality, and how society reacts to the unknown.

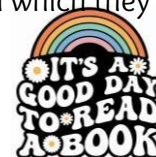
After this, we will look at *Harvey Milk*. Through this short unit, we will look at what goes into biographical writing.

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Reading – One of the most effective ways you can support your child with their academic progress and development, is through reading together regularly. Your child will receive a book from school which they should look after, and bring into school each day.

Children should be reading at home each day, preferably with an adult, for 20 minutes.
Please sign your child's reading record each day to show they are reading regularly and so they can earn rewards in school. Please note, there is a £5 charge for lost books.

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Maths – After two lessons recapping Roman Numerals, we will begin this half term by focusing on **place value**. In Year 5, children will learn about numbers up to a million and understand their composition. They will use this knowledge to partition numbers, compare and order them, and build fluency with written and mental methods.

Children should regularly practise all of their times tables as they come up frequently in every Maths lesson. Don't forget to support your child by having them log on to Times Tables Rockstars website.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>





Science - This half term, we will be learning about **Properties and Changes of Materials**. Children will gain the scientific vocabulary used to discuss the properties of a range of materials. They will build on last year's Electricity unit when they look at insulators and both magnetic and electrical conductors. They will conduct experiments to discover what materials can change, and if this change is reversible or irreversible.

R.E – Year 5's big question for the year is 'What inner forces affect how we think and behave?' This half term we will be learning about how beliefs influence actions. After the half term, we will be looking at how Christmas is celebrated around the world.

P.E – This term we are swimming for the entire Autumn Term.

Children will be attending Dulwich Leisure centre for swimming lessons. In order to participate, they will need swimming trunks (above the knee) or a one-piece swim suit (not a bikini), a swimming hat, and a towel. Goggles can be brought but they are not compulsory. Please make sure your child can **independently** put on and take off their swimming outfit.

Children should store their swimming kit in a **separate** bag (or backpack) from other items they usually bring to school. If your child is well enough to attend school, they are expected to take part. If your child is injured or unwell, please contact their teacher. Please note that swimming is a compulsory part of the national curriculum.

We will also need parent volunteers to walk to and from the pool each week. If you can help, please speak to your child's teacher.

5DB	Tuesday	12:45 - 2:45
5ND	Thursday	12:20 - 2:30

PSHE - This half term, our focus will be on **Health and Wellbeing**. Children will learn about keeping their bodies healthy through exercise and making informed food choices. They will also learn about what happens to their bodies as they grow and change.

Music - This half term, the children will continue to work with Southwark Music Service, learning the ocarina. They will continue to build on their prior knowledge of pitch, posture, and notation learning before they build up to a ensemble performance.



For all Year 5 classes, Music will be on Thursdays after lunch.

Computing - This half term, we are learning about **Programming – selection in physical computing**.

Spanish- We will begin the year with Spanish Phonics (Phonetics 1 & 2), helping children to develop accurate pronunciation and listening skills. They will also start to learn vocabulary for Dates – the days of the week, months and holidays around the year.

On behalf of the Year 5 team, we look forward to getting to know you and your children.