Year 5 Curriculum Update – Autumn 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break, despite the very hot weather! I am looking forward to working closely with you throughout the year to support your child's learning, development and wellbeing. As we look ahead to the new academic year and the start of Year 5, I would like to warmly welcome you and your child to what I hope will be an exciting and engaging year filled with lots of learning and new experiences. Below, you will find an outline of the key topics we will be covering this term, along with some important information to help you stay informed and support your child's learning at home.



ENGLISH

Children in Year 5 will start the term planning and writing persuasive and explanatory letters using their class book 'The truth about my unbelievable summer,' by Benjamin Chaud and Davide Cali. They will understand how to format a letter and recognise the differences between formal and informal language. Later in the term, they will be learning about short stories, with a focus on the Anglo-Saxons. They will be studying poetry, looking at the use of different poetic devices and powerful language, using a famous poem by Spike Milligan entitled 'on the Ning Nang Nong'. Children will learn to apply features of a recount in the form of a diary entry, focusing on the use of emotive language. During the term, children will be reading another class book entitled 'Floodlands' by Michael Sedgewick. In addition to this, the children will also explore 'The Journey' by Aaron Becker to support their English learning. Throughout the term, there will be a continued focus on comprehension, punctuation and grammar via daily guided reading lessons using their class book and different levelled reading books.



MATHEMATICS

Children will be reasoning with large whole integers and revisiting place value and the value of digits, to help consolidate their understanding about column addition and subtraction. Children will also familiarise themselves with multiplication and division facts up to 12x12. They will recite their multiplication facts using 'rolling numbers' at the star of every maths lesson to consolidate their understanding and retrieval skills. Children will also learn how to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers using column multiplication, carrying and addition and explore how to divide a 2 or 3 digit number using a single digit and two digit divisor. This will allow children to use their multiplication understanding to solve division calculations. They will learn to understand the difference between factors and multiples, using their multiplication and division understanding too. Children will construct and read line graphs and timetables, to develop a better understanding about scale and time intervals. They will also use their previous understanding about area and perimeter to calculate the same measurements using compound shapes and apply their skills to solve multistep contextual worded problems.



SCIENCE

During this term, Year 5 will be learning about properties and changes of materials. Children will group materials based on properties such as hardness, transparency, and responses to magnets. They will also have the opportunity to conduct experiments to explore which materials dissolve in a liquid and which do not. Children will begin to understand how dissolving, mixing and changes of state can be reversible. Thery will also be learning about different forces. Children will explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. They will also identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces and recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

TOPIC

During this term in history Year 5 will be focusing on the city of Baghdad from 900CE. They will learn about the rise of the once peaceful city and how it helped the rise of the Islamic Golden Age. Children will also be learning about the early British Empire including global trade, its involvement in the Moghul Empire, East India company, the Seven Year War and what motivated Britain to have an empire overall. As part of their geography learning, children will be focusing on the features of a map, which include the eastern and western hemisphere, using co-ordinates, scale and reading a relief map. They shall also be learning about different types of mountains, such as The Alps, Himalayas and American and African mountains. In music, children will learn to play 'O When the Saints Go Marching In' on tuned instruments. They will analyse jazz music and famous artists such as Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald. Children will explore jazz rhythms and perform their own version of the popular song. They will practise Christmas songs with a focus on vocal expressions and explore various styles of Christmas music from around the world. In art, children will research, plan, make and evaluate Greek plates using clay. As part of their outdoor PE lessons, children will have the opportunity to develop and enhance their invasion skills with a focus on Tag Rugby and Netball. They will also have the opportunity to develop their swimming skills at High Grove Leisure Centre. Their indoor PE lessons will explore speed and dynamic vocabulary to create a dance motif. During their DT lessons, children will be planning and making bridges, using different media, which is linked to their science topic. In French, the children will be learning about shopping in French, Space exploration and French families. As part of their PSHE learning, children will explore the Jigsaw topics: 'being in my world' and 'celebrating differences.' Children will also take part in regular circle time lessons. In computing, Year 5 shall be revising the importance about online safety and focus on systems and searching. There will be a focus on Buddha Dhamma (Buddhism) and Jain Dharm (Jainism) to explore rules in different faiths to help us be better people and discuss if it is better to give than receive in Islam and Christianity in R.E. (**for further information please see the school website or click on the following: Harrow Agreed Syllabus).**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Uniform:** please see the school website about the Cannon Lane School uniform, including wearing school shoes, at all times. Trainers and boots are not permitted, unless your child has a medical condition. Notification must be given to the class teacher via the school office email: https://www.cannonlaneprimary.org/school-uniform/
- **Library**: each class will have the opportunity to visit the library during the week:
  5HJ: Thursday 5B: Tuesday 5J: Friday
- **P.E kits**: please ensure that children have their P.E kits **every Monday**, as P.E times are flexible. The P.E kit list is on the website and should be followed. P.E kits will be **brought home every Friday** so that they are **washed** and ready to be brought **back to school every Monday.**
- **P.E Uniform:** please refer to the school website for P.E kit uniform. Children are allowed to wear the **t-shirt that matches their house or a plain white t-shirt.** School jumpers *are not a part of the PE kit and a separate sweatshirt must be provided:* https://www.cannonlaneprimary.org/school-uniform/
- **Water bottles:** children should bring a water bottle to school every day. All class have drinking water, which the children can use to refill their bottles.
- **Snacks:** children can bring in **fresh fruit** and **vegetables** as a snack. All plastic containers will be brought home at the end of the day
- **Homework**: all homework will be posted online using **Google Classroom**. Children should use their login details from last term, in order to complete the homework**.** The following homework will be given in Year 5:

- **Maths:** this will be **set every Friday** using Times Table Rockstars. Children will be reminded of their login details at school which they will need to complete their tasks. Teachers will show children how to login and complete their work.
- **Foundation/Topic:** this will be set at the start of each half term **on a Friday using Google Classroom**. The matrix will consist of six different activities. Children can complete all as many as they wish. They will be open-ended, creative tasks to consolidate children's learning in class, which your child will be able to present to the rest of the class during the last week of half term.
- **Key Vocabulary:** high frequency words and technical vocabulary will be shared at the start of each half term for your child to learn and use in class.

- **Reading Records:** Each child will be given a reading record which they must bring into school every day. They must record they books they have read and comment on it. A signature by an adult is required every week. Children are encouraged to read every day for at least 20 minutes. A Reading Bingo Challenge will be running this year encouraging children to read texts from a variety of genres including: newspapers, fiction, non-fiction and poetry. This will launch this week.

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Best wishes,
Mrs H Mistry

Assistant Headteacher (Years 5 and 6)