



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER SPRING TERM 2017

Dear Parents,

Year 5 - SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES

For your information we have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 5. We have already made a good start to our studies and we feel sure that you will make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses.

The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

Before half term

Poetry: 'Tell me a story' - Charles Causley and Michael Rosen

The children explore narrative poems, focusing in depth on the work of two poets. They learn about information retrieval, answering questions that require literal comprehension, inference, deduction and imagination. They write the 'back story' to a poem in narrative form and compose an autobiographical narrative poem.

Fiction: 'Oranges in No Man's land by Elizabeth Laird'

The children explore a fiction set in Lebanon. They read the interactive eBook, asking questions and developing understanding of inference and the author's use of language. They use discussion and role-play to explore characters and the impact of civil war. They develop editing, proof-reading and peer-review skills. They plan, edit and write a story from a different character's point of view. **The children would benefit from having their own copy of the text in order to complete reading and homework tasks in and out of school.**

After half term

Non-Fiction: 'The Museum of Fun'

The children explore the mission: to run the Museum of Fun! They read the interactive eBook, scanning and summarising information and relating it to their lives and experiences. They complete the mission, planning, writing and presenting television adverts to encourage people to visit the museum.

Poetry: 'Compare and Perform' - Charles Causley and Michael Rosen

In this unit, the children explore narrative poems, focusing in depth on the work of two poets. They give personal responses to the poems and use performance skills to bring the patterns of the poems to life for an audience. They compare poems, clarify unfamiliar vocabulary and identify patterns of poetic language. They plan and write a prose story 'prequel' for a narrative poem, learning how to integrate dialogue.

SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar): Will be continuing throughout Spring Term with regular weekly lessons

The children will consolidate knowledge of grammatical features of a sentence. Inclusion of noun phrases, adjectives, adverbials, adverbs and relative clauses. They will use year 5 grammar and spelling textbooks to cover all year 5 criteria and check understanding of different elements of grammar. They will check spelling





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patterns and recall of year 3/4/5/6 word banks. We will have a 'Word Detectives Week' where Children take on the role of word detectives to investigate spelling patterns and generate their own spelling rules.

Science

Before half term: Our topic is **Separating Mixtures**. The children will learn about the separation techniques of filtering, sieving and evaporation. They will use sieves to separate materials of different sizes. They will learn that they can separate a dissolved solid from a solution through evaporation of the liquid. They will consolidate and apply their knowledge of the properties of solids, liquids and gases by separating different mixtures.

After half term: Our topic is **Lifecycles**. The children will learn that plants and animals have life cycles and that reproduction is a part of this cycle. They will recognise that each life cycle has distinct stages but that these can vary between species, for example they may describe and contrast the stages of the human life cycle with three and four stage metamorphosis in insects and amphibians.

Mathematics

Number and Place Value: Read, write, round and order (using $<$ $>$) five and six digit numbers. Add tenths, hundredths, thousandths to numbers by using mental strategies.

Geometry: Classify different triangles. Sort triangles according to their internal angles. Classify polygons according to their properties, such as whether they are regular or irregular. Draw regular and irregular 2D shapes and discuss the properties of rectangles. Read and mark co-ordinates. Identify and sort 3D shapes.

Addition and subtraction: Use mental strategies to add and subtract two and three digit numbers. Add and subtract decimal numbers.

Multiplication and division: Use the standard written method to multiply and divide. Investigate square numbers and find square routes.

Measurement: Use scales to weigh different amounts. Convert between kilometres and metres. Investigate imperial units of measure such as miles.

Fractions, Ratio and Proportion: Find fractions of numbers. Write remainders as fractions. Compare, order and add fractions.

Decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions: Understand place value in decimal numbers
Ordering decimal numbers on a number line

The children will also be using '**Mathletics**' activities to supplement their weekly lessons and homework tasks.

Other areas of study will include our class topic on: The Victorians (Victorian Day on Tuesday 28th February)

As **Designers** we will paint and print our own designs in the style of William Morris and we will design our own Victorian toys.

As **Geographers** we will be learning to name and label the different counties and regions of the United Kingdom. We will explore the positive and negative impact of the introduction of the railways in the UK. We will also investigate the changes in the land use of our locality from Victorian times to the present day.

As **Historians** we will use historical sources to learn about the changing impact of Queen Victoria throughout her reign. We will also complete a local history study, focusing on the key industries and changes in St Albans during Victorian times, particularly regarding schools, workhouses and the straw hat industry.

As **Musicians** ongoing skills include: Use voice, sounds, technology and instruments in creative ways; Sing and play confidently and fluently, maintaining an appropriate pulse. Sing with clear diction, accurate tuning, control of breathing and appropriate tone. Aurally identify, recognise, respond to and use musically basic symbols including basic Western notation. Reading, recognising, memorising and joining in a variety of songs for assemblies and services and giving a strong lead in part singing. This music topic for this term is called Life Cycles. The children will listen to music by Johannes Brahms, Luciano Berio, Franz Liszt and Claudio Monteverdi. The children will study a variety of musical moods, styles and genres. The children will perform and compose using new techniques and structures. The children will experiment with body-popping, gospel-singing and performance using new musical techniques.



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What do we expect of you, the parents?

You can help and support us by:

- Regularly checking your child's homework book to ensure homework has been completed and handed in on time
- Reading through your child's homework with them
- Helping them learn their weekly spellings (the term's weekly spellings are sent home at the beginning of The term). Spellings will be tested each Friday morning in the form of a dictation, which will also include other high frequency words.
- Testing all times tables on a regular basis up to 12x12
- Listening to your child read each evening (or as often as possible)
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate
- Ensuring your child has appropriate named PE kit/swimming kit

This term, the children will continue to use their homework folders. **New homework will be given every Friday**, with the expectation for it to be finished and submitted by the following Wednesday (unless different instructions are given). The children will regularly receive both English and maths tasks each week along with the occasional topic based task. They are also expected to complete a daily **reading log which will be checked on a Wednesday**. The children will be given a weekly dictation on a Friday using their spellings for the week. There will also be regular checks on times tables (2-12) and the corresponding division facts throughout the week during maths sessions, as well as a weekly mental maths test on a Friday. Homework should not be rushed and always be presented well. The homework will consolidate the week's lessons or give the opportunity to develop the children's research skills.

Your child should have his/her PE kit in school every day and outdoor sports clothing (including socks and trainers) will be needed for outdoor games sessions. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child does not have their kit in on a games day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session then a note must be provided. **If your daughter wears tights to school, please ensure she has a pair of socks in her sports kit to wear for PE lessons.**

This Term we will be swimming on **Friday** afternoons at St Albans School. For swimming sessions children need to have a bag containing a swimming cap, towel and a swimming costume or trunks, not the knee length Bermuda style shorts. Goggles are optional.

Who will be working with your children this term?

Mrs Cole will be teaching in Year 5 every day. We are fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Sherwood, Mrs Kotecha, Mrs Harris and Mrs Clarke working with us in the role of Teaching Assistant at different points during the week. In addition, Mr Morgan, a qualified sports coach, will be working with Year 5 on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings to teach PE and Mrs Price will be teaching music lessons on Thursday afternoon.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, in the first instance please come into school and speak with me. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far in this new academic year and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Dawn Cole
Year 5 Class Teacher