



Birchwood Avenue Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Hall

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Year 5 Spring Term

A very warm New Year to all our families of Year Five children. Our Learning Superpower this half term will be 'empathy' where children will begin to understand and share the feelings, thoughts, and experiences of another person to see the world from their perspective. We feel, as a school, that our values underpin our learning behaviour, and this is reflected in our work.

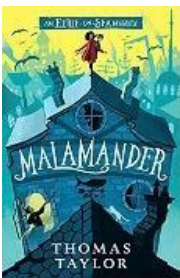
PE

Our PE days this term are **Mondays and Tuesdays**. Please ensure children have their PE kit on these days. We advise that, rather than plimsolls, trainers are better at supporting children's ankle development. We will be taking part in **gymnastics** this term. Within this, we will use our prior knowledge of balance to explore equipment and sequences of movements. In our outdoor lessons, we will be doing **netball**; this will focus on developing teamwork, communication and coordination.

English

Year 5 will explore a range of high-quality texts and visual media to develop their reading and writing skills. Using ***Cloud Tea Monkeys***, ***Stone Girl***, ***Bone Girl*** and ***The Boy in the Tower***, pupils will deepen their understanding of character, setting, and themes while responding to rich and challenging narratives. Alongside these texts, short films such as ***High Diving Giraffes*** will be used as creative stimuli to inspire descriptive, narrative, and reflective writing.

Reading



Please continue to support your child, to encourage a love of reading. They will continue to bring a reading book home each week linked to their current reading level. **We expect them** to read for **at least 10 minutes each evening**. A Year 5 reader should read with intonation and tone to convey emotions and plot. You can support your child by taking turns to read the book, as this will keep the story flowing and help them in their understanding. Please also discuss with your child what is happening in the story and why. A good grasp of reading will help your child access all areas of the curriculum and stand them in good stead to make good progress in their learning.

Maths

Fractions, percentages and decimals will be our main focus in maths this term.

We will explore identifying fractions, naming and writing equivalent fractions, and representing fractions visually, including tenths and hundredths. Alongside this, we will be recognising mixed numbers and improper fractions, and convert from one form to another.

We will then be learning to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages.

Science

This term, we will be learning about **Properties and Changes of Materials**. The children will explore how materials can be grouped based on their properties; including hardness, solubility, transparency and conductivity. They will understand what is meant by 'dissolving' and whether certain substances dissolve in water to form a solution. They will build on this to consider whether the rate at which a substance dissolves can be altered by heat or stirring; this will allow them to explore if a change is reversible or irreversible.

Geography

This term in Geography, Year 5 will be learning about the **world's oceans** and their importance to the planet. Pupils will explore the names and locations of the five oceans, key physical features, and how oceans affect climate and weather. They will also study marine life, human use of the oceans, and the impact of pollution and conservation efforts. Through maps, diagrams, videos, and enquiry-based activities, pupils will develop their geographical skills, including map reading, data interpretation, and understanding of environmental responsibility.

History

We will study the **Tudor period**, exploring key events, people, and daily life in Tudor England. Pupils will learn about the Tudor monarchs, with a focus on Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, and examine how their actions shaped religion, society, and government. They will investigate what life was like for rich and poor Tudors, including homes, food, education, and entertainment. Through timelines, source work, and discussion, pupils will develop their historical skills by asking questions, analysing evidence, and understanding how the past has influenced life today.

PSHE

During our PSHE lessons, the children will have the opportunity to think about and discuss '**Dreams and Goals**'. We will share what we see our future being like and how we will work towards our goals. We will explore careers and the lives that individuals lead when working in specific sectors. Pupils will consider the steps towards a dream, goal or job throughout this unit.

Art

In our art lessons, we will be learning **Sculpture: Interactive Installation**. Pupils will investigate how artists create three-dimensional and interactive artworks that invite the audience to engage with them. They will experiment with a range of materials, techniques, and structures to design and create their own sculptural installations.

DT

We will be looking at **Electrical Systems: Doodlers**, where pupils will learn how simple electrical circuits work, including components such as motors, switches, and power sources. They will design, make, and evaluate their own motorised "doodler" products, applying their understanding of mechanisms and electrical systems. Throughout the unit, pupils will develop skills in designing, problem-solving, and testing, while working safely and creatively with electrical components.

RE

Year 5 will explore the question "**What happens when we die?**". Pupils will interpret and compare different sources of wisdom, teachings, and beliefs about life after death from a range of religions and worldviews. Through discussion, reflection, and enquiry, they will consider how these beliefs influence the way people live their lives and find meaning. Pupils will develop respect for different perspectives while deepening their understanding of religious and non-religious views.

Computing

The children will develop their digital skills by learning to create **3D structures** using software, exploring design, spatial awareness, and creativity in a virtual environment. Following this, they will focus on **game coding**, discovering how to design and adapt games to engage different audiences. Throughout the unit, pupils will enhance their problem-solving, logical thinking, and computational skills while applying their creativity in practical, interactive projects.



Thank you for your support,

Miss Atherton
(class teacher)