



# Year 5 Newsletter

Spring 1  
2026

We wish you all a very happy New Year! We have had a good first term establishing our expectations and children challenging themselves with their learning. The children worked hard to learn some new concepts and apply it in various ways to ensure learning is secure and easily retrieved. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support with homework, reading, spelling and practising times tables. We look forward to your continued support in these areas. This newsletter outlines the topics we will be covering in each subject during the Spring Term and some website links to help support your child.



## English

### Older Literature: 'The Highway Man'

We will study the characters and setting, exploring the descriptive devices used. We will look closely at unfamiliar language by investigating word meanings. We will explore characters through drama and storytelling. Children will perform the poem, and experiment with writing in a similar style.

### Non-Chronological Reports

We will be exploring features of a nonchronological report and children will be creating an information text on the Solar System. Children will apply their knowledge and technical vocabulary from Science, as well as conducting further research on the topic to create an interesting fact filled report. They will be using organisational devices to structure their report, such as headings, subheadings, diagrams and captions.



## Science

Our Science topic is 'Properties of Materials'. Children will further develop their knowledge and understanding of materials through exploration of the properties and why those specific properties make them suitable for particular uses. They will explore familiar objects and find out more about solids, liquids and gases. This website provides useful information on identifying different materials and understanding their uses for different purposes: BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4339j6/articles/zx8hhv4zwn6mnb>

## Music

Pupils will be practising skills in rhythm, beats, tempo and composition of music.

## Design Technology

Year 5 will be learning about **bridges and structural strength**. Pupils will explore different bridge types—beam, arch and truss—and discover how supporting shapes, especially triangles, can make structures stronger.

## Computing

Vector drawing Children will find out that vector images are made up of shapes and learn how to use the different drawing tools in Google Drawings. They will learn that images are created in layers and explore the ways in which the parts can be grouped and duplicated to support them in creating more complex pieces of work.

## RE and Worldviews

In R.E., children will explore the question "What happens when we die?" by learning about a range of beliefs from different worldviews, including Christian, Jewish, and Muslim ideas about the soul, forgiveness, eternal life, and funeral practices, while reflecting on similarities and differences. This sensitive unit will be taught with care, providing a safe and supportive space for discussion and reflection.

## Geography



We will be investigating: Why do oceans matter? - Pupils will study the **Great Barrier Reef**, its importance, and the ways humans can impact marine environments. Through fieldwork, they will practise collecting and presenting data using tally charts, photographs, sketch maps and pie charts, and will learn how to stay safe while working outdoors.

## Maths

We will continue to improve our mathematical language to help our understanding and reasoning in the following areas:

**Multiplication and division**—formal methods of multiplying up to 4-digits by up to 2-digits; problem solving; introducing short division using the bus stop method.

**Fractions**—multiplying fraction; finding fractions of amounts; using fractions as operators.

This website is a helpful maths dictionary:

<http://amathsdictionaryforkids.com/>

Children must continue to build their fluency with times tables practice on Times Tables Rock Stars:

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

Children can also improve their fluency with regular practice of number bonds, halving and doubling, division facts, square numbers using the website TopMarks.

## P.E

For P.E., we will be focusing on gymnastics. Children will learn a sequence of movements before creating their own routines, developing strength, balance, and control while moving with confidence.

## PSHE

Our topic is 'Healthy Me', exploring appropriate choices relating to smoking, food and drink. We will study how we can keep mentally healthy. <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/z4d82hv/resources/1>

Any concerns, please email: [learning@wembleyprimary.brent.sch.uk](mailto:learning@wembleyprimary.brent.sch.uk) Thank you!

Miss Williams 5W

Miss Ravi 5P

Mrs Adam 5S

Miss Adeyemi 5F



## Year 5 Topic Home Learning Spring 1

Complete all three challenges by Monday 9th February 2026. Don't forget to read and practise spellings every day. Learning is submitted on Google Classroom or in the Red Home Learning Book.

### History

Write a **short fact file** about one aspect of **Ancient Greek life**. You may choose **Greek Gods, daily life, Olympic Games, city—states (Athens/Sparta)** or **Greek theatre**. Your fact file should include:

- the events,
- clothes,
- traditions,
- awards.
- At least five facts.

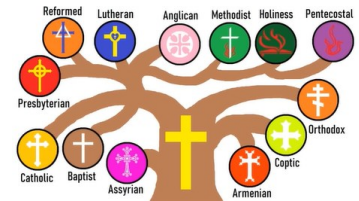


### Religion and Worldviews

Choose two different Christian churches (e.g., Catholic and Anglican, or Orthodox and Pentecostal).

On one page, draw or write three things:

- **One difference in how each church worships** (e.g., music, symbols, clothing, the building).
- **One thing they have in common** (e.g., prayer, the Bible, Jesus)
- **A short sentence** answering: *Why do you think Christians worship in different ways?*



### Super Power of Looking

This painting focuses on Henri Rousseau's 1891 painting *Surprised!*

Discuss the questions below with your parent and submit answers on Google Classroom or in your red book.

#### Colour & Line

Colour

1. Do any colours 'pop' from the image and make it more interesting?
2. How are colours used naturalistically?
3. How are colours used symbolically?
4. How does the colour of the sky create mood?

Line

1. Can you identify three different ways the artist uses stripes in this painting?
2. How does line help create a sense of movement?



### Compulsory Homework—Maths Fluency Focus

**Week 1:** write 2 equivalent fractions for each fraction below-

$\frac{1}{2}$        $\frac{1}{3}$        $\frac{2}{5}$        $\frac{1}{7}$        $\frac{6}{10}$        $\frac{4}{7}$

**Week 2:** adding fractions

$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3} =$        $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{10} =$        $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{4}{6} =$        $\frac{6}{12} + \frac{3}{12} =$

**Week 3:** subtracting fractions

$\frac{9}{10} - \frac{3}{10} =$        $\frac{12}{13} - \frac{1}{13} =$        $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} =$        $1 \text{ whole} - \frac{3}{6} =$

**Week 4:** convert the mixed numbers below into improper fractions, and the improper fractions to mixed numbers.

$$2\frac{1}{4}$$

$$2\frac{3}{5}$$

$$5\frac{3}{5}$$

$$\frac{9}{4}$$

$$\frac{27}{8}$$

$$\frac{15}{2}$$