AUTUMN CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Year 5 & 6 - Autumn Term 2026

Welcome Back!

We hope you and your families had a wonderful and restful summer break. We're excited to welcome the children back to school and look forward to a fun, productive term ahead. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. If you have any questions or need anything as we get back into our routines, please feel free to get in touch.

Warm regards,
The Year 5 & 6 Teaching Team







ENGLISH

This term in English, children will be exploring a suspense narrative using the Talk for Writing (T4W) approach. The children will learn how the character's thoughts, feelings and actions help to build suspense and tension throughout the story. They also learn how detailed descriptions and ambitious vocabulary can create an exciting and engaging narrative.

Children will also be developing their skills in writing an instructional text. This will provide an opportunity to write a clear and engaging set of instructions using imperative verbs, precise language and time conjunctions. They will practise organising their writing logically so that the reader can successfully follow the steps to find the pirate's treasure.

Through T4W, pupils will build confidence by moving from imitation, to innovation, to independent writing.

READING

In reading lessons, the children will be exploring 'Skellig', using it to develop key comprehension skills. Through daily guided reading, they will:

As they read Skellig, the children will develop their inference skills by exploring characters' thoughts, feelings and motivations. They also practise predicting, summarising and retrieving evidence from the text to understand its themes, relationships and deeper meanings. Skellig explores themes of friendship, hope, family and change. It encourages readers to think about life's mysteries and how kindness, courage and belief can help people through difficult times.

This unit aims to nurture a love of reading while helping pupils become confident, thoughtful and independent readers.

Maths

This term, children will be following the White Rose Maths curriculum, covering key blocks that build fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills.

They will focus on:

- Place value: children will develop their understanding of place value by reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers up to 10 million. They will learn to round numbers, interpret negative numbers and use their knowledge of place value to solve a range of reasoning and problem-solving questions.
- Addition and subtraction: children will build fluency in using formal written methods, mental calculation strategies and estimation to solve increasingly complex problems, explaining and justifying their reasoning along the way.

These units follow the White Rose mastery approach, helping children deepen understanding through concrete, pictorial and abstract methods.

SCIENCE

This term, we will be learning all about the earth in space. children will learn about the Solar System and the relationships between the Sun, Earth and Moon. They discover that the planets orbit the Sun, that the Earth rotates on its axis to create day and night, and that the Moon orbits the Earth.

They also learn the names and order of the eight planets and compare their key features, such as size, distance from the Sun and the length of their years. Through observations, models and scientific enquiry, pupils develop their understanding of how our place in space affects life on Earth and begin to appreciate the vast scale of the Solar System.

Vocab: Earth, Sun, orbit, diameter, Solar System, diameter



Ancient Greece

HISTORY

This term, the children will learn about one of the most influential civilisations in history. In our Ancient Greeks history topic, children will learn about one of the most influential civilisations in history. They will explore daily life in Ancient Greece, compare the city-states of Athens and Sparta, and discover the achievements of the Greeks in areas such as democracy, philosophy, sport and the arts. Throughout the topic, children will develop their understanding of chronology by placing events in historical context, investigate power through the study of government and leadership, and examine conflict through warfare, rivalries and key historical events. They will also explore Greek beliefs, including religion, myths and legends, and consider the legacy of Ancient Greece and its lasting impact on the modern world. By studying Greek society, children will gain an understanding of how people lived and how different groups experienced life in this ancient civilisation, while learning how historians use evidence to build an understanding of the past.

Through enquiry questions, timelines and source work, the children will continue developing their historical skills of questioning, interpreting evidence and understanding cause and consequence.







PE

This term in PE the children will be developing their basketball skills. Children will develop their dribbling, passing and shooting skills. For our indoor sessions, cwe will be focussing on gymnastics. The name of the topic is solo sequence. Children will be looking at balances, rolls and jumps with the aim of creating their own gymnastics sequence.

Year 5 childrnen will be working with Tiger's Trust on a Friday morning. These sessions will be based around resilience. These sessions will aim at giving children different sporting challenges desgined to test resilience.



We're looking forward to an active and engaging term!

MUSIC

FOR THIS UNIT OF MUSIC, ALL THE LEARNING IS FOCUSED AROUND ONE SONG: LIVIN' ON A PRAYER. THE MATERIAL PRESENTS AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO MUSIC WHERE GAMES, THE DIMENSIONS OF MUSIC (PULSE, RHYTHM, PITCH ETC), SINGING AND PLAYING INSTRUMENTS ARE ALL LINKED. AS WELL AS LEARNING TO SING, PLAY, IMPROVISE AND COMPOSE WITH THIS SONG, CHILDREN WILL LISTEN AND APPRAISE OTHER CLASSIC ROCK SONGS.

ART

This term, our focus is pencil drawings. We will be developing our understanding of form, and practicing shading skills. After looking at a range of artist's self-portraits, we will be working up to our own self portrait, using a photo of our face for accuracy.

FRENCH

This half term, we are working through our 'This is me' unit. This will include describing our personalities and appearance as wel as discussing interests and revising greetings. After half term we will learn how to describe homes and the rooms inside them.

RE

This term, we will explore expressions of faith and how different religions show our beliefs through worship, actions and celebration. Pupils will compare places of worship across faiths and learn how design and symbolism support religious practice. They will also study key religious festivals, including Harvest Festival, to understand what these events reveal about gratitude, community and belief.

JIGSAW

Our focus this half term is Celebrating Difference. Children will explore the importance of respecting and valuing the differences that make each person unique. They will develop their understanding of equality, inclusion, empathy and respect, while learning about the impact of stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination. Through discussions and activities, children will consider how their actions affect others, learn how to recognise and respond to bullying, and understand the importance of kindness and acceptance. They will also celebrate the achievements of others and develop a greater appreciation of diversity, helping them to become respectful, responsible and inclusive members of our school community.

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

If you wish to speak to your child's teacher please feel free to make an appointment via the office or send an email. missbooth/mrsburrell/mrwalker@bevstnicks.co.uk. Sometimes catching us after school can be tricky!