

English

This half term, the children will be reading *Beowulf* by Michael Morpurgo. In our guided reading sessions, we will explore this exciting and atmospheric retelling of the classic Anglo-Saxon legend, which introduces pupils to themes of bravery, loyalty and heroism through vivid storytelling and rich language.



Each week, pupils will focus on developing their reading fluency alongside a key comprehension skill, supporting them to understand historical fiction and more complex narrative structures with greater confidence. A particular focus will be placed on developing pupils' prosody, encouraging them to read aloud with appropriate expression, intonation, pace and attention to punctuation to enhance meaning and engagement with the text. They will also complete a fortnightly mixed comprehension to practise applying a range of reading strategies across different question types.

For Year 5's English units this term, the children will be using their guided reading text of *Beowulf* as inspiration for creating their own narratives. Over the course of the five week half term, they will gradually build their stories to publish an original legend of their own. The children will study how to write this genre effectively, understanding how heroic characters, epic settings and carefully built tension is created.

Alongside developing their storytelling skills, the children will be applying a range of grammatical features to strengthen and enhance their work. They will use relative clauses, adverbials, expanded noun phrases, dialogue and the passive voice to create detailed, engaging narratives. A key focus will also be building confidence with expanded, complex sentences, using a variety of subordinate clauses to add depth to their writing.

Spellings

In Spelling, children will be focusing this half term on hyphenated words and words with silent letters. They will also revise the spelling of words that end in -tious and -cious. Children will also continue to learn their Year 5 and 6 common exception words.



Alder Grove

Church of England Primary School

Spring 2 - Year 5

PSHE - Healthy Me

In this unit, children will learn about making informed and responsible choices to support their health and wellbeing. They will explore the health risks of smoking and understand how tobacco affects the body, helping them to consider how to make safe and informed decisions in the future. The unit will also cover alcohol, including the potential risks of misuse and its impact on behaviour and physical health. Through discussion and reflection, pupils will be supported to think critically and develop the knowledge they need to make positive choices.



Later in the unit, children will take part in an emergency aid workshop including a visit from an ambulance team. In this workshop and in class, they will learn basic first aid procedures, how to respond in an emergency and how to place someone in the recovery position. The unit will also explore body image, including how the media can promote unrealistic body standards, and encourage children to develop a healthy and balanced perspective. Finally, pupils will consider attitudes towards food and reflect on practical ways to keep themselves healthy and happy, both physically and emotionally.

Maths:



Decimals and Percentages

This unit builds upon the previous three units on fractions and on the work children have done on decimals in Year 4. Children should have a firm understanding of basic decimals and fractions before they start this unit, which will build upon their knowledge and introduce them to percentages.

Area and Perimeter

This unit provides children with numerical strategies to calculate the perimeter and area of polygons, squares, rectangles and other rectilinear shapes. They will be introduced to simple formulae such as perimeter = $2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width})$ and area = $\text{length} \times \text{width}$. Application of these methods will include working inversely and using a systematic approach to find rectangles with a given perimeter or area.

Graphs and Tables

This unit builds on children's statistics work from earlier units in both Year 3 and Year 4. Children will look at examples of line graphs that display discrete and continuous data and at dual line graphs. For the first time, children will also make, complete and interpret two-way tables, which allow children to break down data into more categories.

In term 4, children will continue to practice times tables already taught: You can use doodle tables and UR brainy app to support.

PE -

Volleyball

In this unit, children will develop their understanding of the principles of net and wall games. In all games activities, children will have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. In volley ball, they do this by placing an object away from an opponent to make it more difficult for them to return. Children are given opportunities to work in collaboration with others, play fairly demonstrating an understanding of the rules as well as being respectful of the people they play against and with.



Tennis

In this unit, children develop net and wall skills by refining ground strokes (forehand/backhand), introducing overhead serves and teaching volleys. Children will learn to apply these techniques in competitive minigames focussing on rallying, accuracy, scoring rules and movement within a ready position. The unit emphasises control, court positioning and tactical awareness such as playing, volleying at the net.



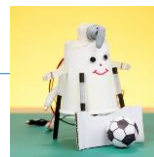
RE - Why do people have to stand up for what they believe in?

Children who are secure can explain how Christianity spread and how influential figures have shaped changes in its practice. They understand why different Christian denominations exist, recognise that beliefs—such as interpretations of the Holy Spirit—vary between Christians, and can identify similarities and differences in worship and practice across denominations. They are also able to describe how Christian practices have changed over time and reflect thoughtfully on their own views about religious leadership and change.



Design and Technology - Electrical Systems

In this unit, children explore electrical systems with motors by designing and making a motorised wobble bot. They develop understanding of how simple circuits, motors, and mechanical movement work together, and apply this knowledge to design a playful, moving product. The unit emphasises iterative design, problem-solving, and safe, accurate making. By the end of the unit, children will be able to evaluate their product's performance and suggest improvements.



Alder Grove

Church of England Primary School

Spring 2 – Year 5

Computing: We are animators

In this unit, children will use the stop motion studio app to create a toy with simple images and a single movement. They will do this by creating a short stop motion with small changes between images. They will think of a simple story idea for their animation and then decompose it into smaller parts to create a storyboard with simple characters. While doing this, they will make small changes to the models to ensure a smooth animation and delete unnecessary frames as well as adding effects such as extending parts and titles. As part of the evaluative process, children will provide helpful feedback to other groups about their animations.



History

This term, pupils will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and their impact on Britain. They will explore who the Anglo-Saxons and the Scots were, why the Anglo-Saxons invaded, and where they settled across Britain. Children will learn about the different Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, how settlements developed over time, and how daily life changed from prehistoric Britain. They will also study how Christianity spread during this period and investigate the important archaeological discovery at Sutton Hoo to understand what it reveals about Anglo-Saxon life and beliefs.



Science - Forces continued

This unit builds on learning from Year 3 Forces and Magnets, giving children the opportunity to build on their knowledge of forces as pushes and pulls. Pupils will learn that forces can make things increase their speed, reduce their speed, change direction or change shape. They will study gravity, friction air resistance and water resistance, looking at ways in which all of these forces act upon objects such as parachutes, boats and footballs. Children will have the opportunity to research scientists who worked on developing our understanding of forces such as Isaac Newton. They will consider how understanding forces is vital to many different roles today.



'They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season.' Psalm 1:3