

English

This half term, the children will be continuing with the second part of *Beowulf* by Michael Morpurgo. In this section of the story, we will explore the dramatic events that unfold as Grendel's mother seeks her revenge, deepening pupils' understanding of the themes of bravery, loyalty and heroism through rich and atmospheric storytelling.

During guided reading sessions, pupils will continue to develop their reading fluency alongside key comprehension skills, helping them to engage with more complex narrative structures and historical fiction with increasing confidence. There will remain a strong focus on prosody, encouraging pupils to read aloud with appropriate expression, intonation, pace and attention to punctuation to enhance meaning and enjoyment of the text. Pupils will also continue to complete fortnightly, mixed comprehension tasks to practise applying a range of reading strategies across different question types.

Later in the term, we will move on to *The Girl of Ink and Stars*, where pupils will apply the same skills to a new and engaging text, further developing their confidence and understanding as readers.

This term in English, Year 5 children will be using their guided reading text *Beowulf* as inspiration to write a newspaper article. The children will learn about the key features of non-fiction writing, particularly how newspaper reports are structured and written. They will explore how writers describe heroic characters, dramatic settings and exciting events, and how tension is created to keep the reader interested. The children will then apply these techniques in their own writing.

Alongside this, the children will continue developing their grammar skills to improve the quality of their work. They will practise using: relative clauses, modal verb, expanded noun phrases, direct and indirect speech.

There will also be a strong focus on writing longer, more detailed sentences. Children will learn how to use parenthesis to add extra information and depth, helping them to write more confidently and effectively.

Spellings

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



Alder Grove

Church of England Primary School

Summer 1 - 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.

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:



Properties of Shape

This unit builds on children's work from Year 4 where they identified properties of angles. They will also be given the grounding to work on the following unit where they will be asked to reason about the lengths and angles of quadrilaterals.

Position and Direction

This unit builds on skills children will have gained in Year 4 - using coordinates in the first quadrant to plot points on a grid - and in Year 5 Unit 12, where children learned about the properties of shapes. It enables them to use these skills to plot reflections and translations.

Decimals

This unit builds on children's work in Years 4 and 5 of adding and subtracting whole numbers, and multiplying and dividing whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000. It also extends children's work with number patterns. By considering the place value of each digit, children will broaden their understanding of adding and subtracting using formal written methods, and of multiplying and dividing decimal numbers.

In term 5, children will continue to practice times tables already taught: You can use doodle tables and UR brainy app to support.

Children also now practice their arithmetic skills. Please use maths bot:

[Year 5 - Arithmetic](#)

PE -

Swimming

In this unit, pupils will focus on confidence and control. Pupils will work to improve their swimming strokes, learn personal survival techniques and how to stay safe around water. Pupils will have to stay afloat and propel themselves through the water. Pupils are given the opportunity to be creative, designing their own personal survival course and creating a synchronised swimming sequence.

Rounders

In this unit, pupils will develop their understanding of the principles of striking and fielding. Pupils develop the quality and consistency of their fielding skills and understanding of when to use them such as throwing underarm and overarm, catching and retrieving a ball. They will expand on their knowledge of how to play the different roles of bowler, backstop, fielder and batter and apply tactics in these positions. In all games activities, pupils have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition.

RE - Who should get to be in charge?

Pupils who are secure will be able to explain how religious laws are created, using Muslim examples, and link Muhammad's practices, sayings, and actions to the formation of these laws. They will understand how Muhammad's successor influenced different Muslim groups and why, as well as describe the concept of bloodline and its relevance to succession in the British monarchy. Pupils will also show an understanding of how Guru Nanak chose his successor, compare and contrast the leadership qualities of Sikh Gurus with attention to virtues and methods of selection, and discuss how Sikh teachings in the Guru Granth Sahib guide followers.



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

Summer 1 - Year 5



Computing: Animation

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 half term in History, pupils will develop their understanding of the Viking period by placing it within a chronological timeline and exploring where the Vikings came from. They will learn about Scandinavia as the Viking homeland and how Viking raids and settlements impacted Britain. Pupils will study the struggle for control between the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, including the role of Alfred the Great and why he was such a significant leader in defending his kingdom. They will also explore what everyday Viking life was like in Britain, including homes, jobs and settlements, as well as learning about Viking beliefs and gods. Throughout the unit, pupils will work towards answering the enquiry question: **Were the Vikings ruthless killers or peaceful settlers?** They will examine evidence of both Viking raids and warfare, alongside their roles as traders and settlers, to form a balanced understanding.



Science - Earth and Space

This Year 5 unit on Earth and Space, introduces pupils to the structure and dynamics of the solar system. Over the course of the unit, children learn that the Earth, along with other planets, orbits the Sun, and that the Earth rotates on its axis, causing day and night. They explore the relationship between the Earth, Sun and Moon, understanding that these are approximately spherical bodies and that the Moon orbits the Earth. Through the use of models, observations and scientific vocabulary, pupils develop their understanding of key concepts such as rotation and orbit, while also addressing common misconceptions. The unit emphasises working scientifically by encouraging questioning, modelling and explanation, supporting pupils in building a secure foundation for future learning in space and physics.

