Year 5 Newsletter

Autumn 2—2026/2027

Reading

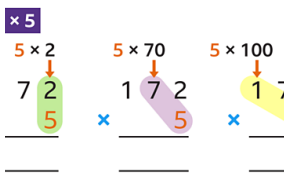
This half term, the children are continuing their reading of 'Where the Mountain Meets the Moon' by Grace Lin. So far, the main character, Minli, has left her home in search of fortune for her family. The children have really enjoyed following her journey learning all about Chinese customs. They have practiced oral and written comprehension, looking at the skills of retrieval and inference. They have shown empathy for the characters and enjoyed making predictions.

Writing

Following the success of our wishing tale unit, children will begin a new writing unit next term: *Red*. This unit will build on their narrative skills by exploring *warning* tales such as the traditional tale of 'Little Red Riding Hood' and Rose Blanche. The children will explore techniques to create suspense. Children will learn how to craft purposeful setting descriptions that enhance mood and tension, deepening their understanding of how language choices influence storytelling. Through structured lessons and creative tasks, they will be encouraged to apply these techniques in their own writing, fostering greater confidence and control in their use of narrative structure, descriptive detail, and dramatic pacing.

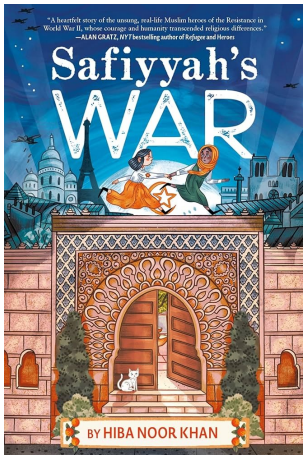
Maths

In maths this half term, the children will be building on their knowledge of the multiplication tables to learn formal written methods of multiplication and division. Once this knowledge is secure, they will apply this learning to understanding fractions.

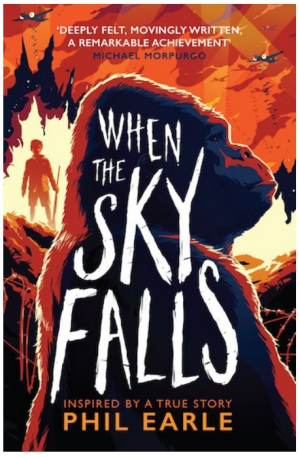


Key Dates

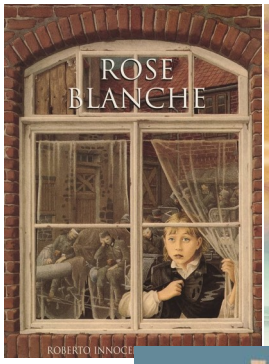
Whole Class Reading Book

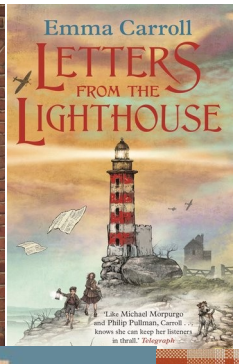


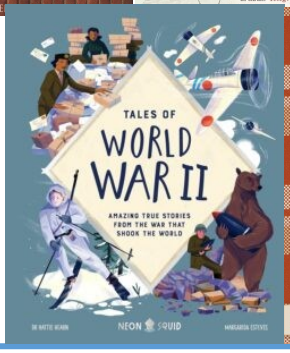
Class Read

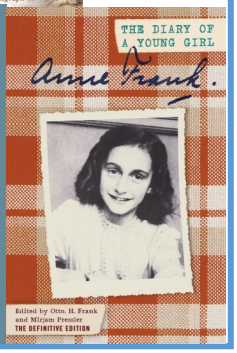


Suggested Books for Reading









Science

Next half term, children will build on their Year 4 science learning as they begin a new unit on electricity. They will investigate how the voltage of cells affects the brightness of a bulb and how resistance influences the performance of a circuit. These key questions will be explored through a series of fair tests and hands-on activities, allowing children to deepen their understanding of electrical components and their functions. By constructing and analysing circuits, they will develop their scientific enquiry skills, learn to make predictions, record results accurately and making conclusions based on evidence—laying the foundation for future physics learning.



History

This term, we will be finishing our WW2 unit where the children will explore German occupation and the resistance movement throughout Europe. The children will also study how Jewish people were persecuted by the Nazi Party by exploring the laws that were passed and the key events that led to the Holocaust.



DT

This half term children will be designing and creating a steady hand game. They will research and develop a design criteria to inform their designs and ensure that they are innovative, functional and appealing to their target audience. They will create designs by drawing on their knowledge of 3D shapes and electrical circuits before testing them. They children will also develop their evaluation skills by evaluating their products against their own design criteria and considering the views of others to improve their work .

PE



Hockey / Seated Balances

This half term, we will be doing Hockey. The children will secure their skills to be able to: dribble the ball holding the stick in correct position, perform a pass and look for a space in an adapted game to receive the ball, pass and receive a ball with some control and begin to tackle a player safely- when stationary and moving. During indoor P.E, the children will develop and apply their dynamic balance on a line and counter balance with a partner through focused skill development sessions.

RE

This half term, the RE big question is: Buddhists: who was the Buddha and what does he mean for Buddhists?

In this unit, the children are introduced to Buddhism. They focus on the significance of the figure of Siddhartha Buddha. They will examine stories of his life before considering his meaning for devotees today. They will learn about key concepts of dhamma and impermanence.



Music

This half term, children will be exploring the dynamic world of pop music, discovering the art of performing in a band. They will make connections between musical choices and shared feelings; project their voices when they sing; identify and explain harmony; add rhythms to a bass line that build in energy; add rhythms to the chord sequence and coordinate them with their group and begin to use and respond to non-verbal cues.



French

Children will learn 10 phrases for activities they may do at the weekend in the foreign language. They will also be presented with further extension on telling the time and opinions/ justifications. Pupils will have the knowledge and skills to talk about what they do at the weekend, enabling them to create more detailed and personalised responses by the end of the unit.



PSHE

Next half term, children will begin the PSHE unit *Celebrating Differences*. They will explore themes of diversity, including similarities and differences among individuals and discuss the challenges some people face when perceived as being 'different'. The unit will also address bullying, group dynamics and strategies for managing conflict. Children will learn about people with disabilities, highlighting inspiring examples of individuals who have led remarkable and accomplished lives.

