



The Orchards Primary Academy

Where learning has no limits and personal growth is endless...

Curriculum Newsletter for Spring Term 1

Year 5

Welcome to the first half of the Spring Term. Please see an outline of some of the exciting things happening this half term. Should you have any questions, worries or concerns, please see Miss Moore or Miss Bayley.



Mathematics	We are learning all about fractions, decimals, angles and percentages this half term. We will be learning how to add and subtract mixed fractions and how to solve complex word problems involving fractions and decimals. Following on from this, we will then begin exploring different angles and how to use our knowledge of different types of angles to find missing parts. This will then lead to our learning about percentages.
Writing	This half term our new text focuses include 'Sleeper and the Spindle' and 'Beowulf'. We will be exploring key themes of courage, bravery and gender dynamics. Children will explore these texts fully to lead up to their final writing piece and will practice a range of different English writing techniques to enhance their writing.
Reading	Our reading approach is called the '5 R's' approach where we will focus on a singular book and embed ourselves into the story. Through this approach, children will be able to explore the context of the story and be fully immersed in its content. Children will then answer comprehension questions based on key parts of the story to assess understanding and develop our



	reading skills. Our books this half term are 'Amazon River' and 'Once upon a Raindrop'.
Science	In Science, we will be learning all about Earth and Space. This unit will take place over the whole of the Spring Term as children will receive an in-depth opportunity to explore space and all the wonders it has to hold. We will be exploring different planets, the movement of the Earth, Sun and the Moon, the rotation of the Earth and how the creates day and night, the tilt of the Earth and the different phases of the Moon.
Geography	In Geography, we are learning all about oceans and continents. We will be discussing why oceans are so important and how they are used to transport goods between countries.
PE	In year 5, we are doing gymnastics and dodgeball this half term. Children will be practicing how to complete complex moves safely and create their own gymnastics routine. In dodgeball, children will be learning about agility and how to use the space around to move quickly and with purpose.
DT	In DT this half term, the children will be investigating different mechanical systems to design their own eco-bike. We will begin by exploring different types of gears and pulley systems and evaluating existing products, this will then lead us into designing our final piece using a self-designed pulley and gear system.
Computing	In computing, we will be focusing on handling data. Linking with our science unit, we will be investigating data received and how it is managed from the Mars rover.
French	In French, we will be focusing on rhymes and songs. This will include making links between some phonemes, rhymes and spellings and reading aloud familiar words
Religious Education	In RE, we will be learning about Sikhism. We will be learning about a range of Sikh stories and the importance of these stories.



PSHE

PSHE will have a focus on 'dreams and goals'. This will involve discussions about our future dreams, the importance of money, children will be exploring different jobs and careers, how to achieve their dream jobs and motivation.

Home Learning:

- Reading books go home throughout the week. Please read with your child 3 times per week and record in their diary.
- Homework is handed out weekly on a Tuesday and should be returned the following Monday. Homework is: Mathletics Tasks which are allocated each week and pupils can access via their Mathletics login; grammar homework linked to in school grammar lessons; 10 spellings to practise before assessment day which is every Tuesday.

PE:

- Our PE days are on Monday and Thursday. Plain black bottoms, a white polo shirt or t-shirt, a plain black hoodie without any logos and black pumps or trainers. Hair should be tied back on PE days and all jewellery should be removed for safety purposes.

Projects and Trips

- For the Spring showcase project, children have been asked to create and design their own planet! They can be as creative as they would like and use things we have learnt within the classroom to support them with this project. Projects can either be a 2-D or 3-D design. These will be due during the second half of the Spring term. A specific date will be provided in the Spring 2 newsletter.