

# Year 5 – Spring 1

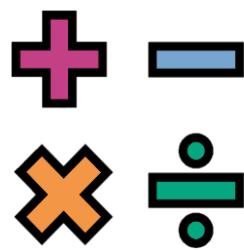
## Literacy



In our writing lessons, we will explore the text 'Kaspar, Prince of Cats' by Michael Morpurgo. Children will enjoy a variety of creative and factual writing activities, including letters, alternative story endings, newspaper reports, recounts, and research about the Titanic and its voyage. Then we will move onto Anne Frank's Diary through extracts from her original diary and a novel adaptation. Children will write extended diary entries, an obituary, a newspaper report, and an opinion piece—culminating in publishing their own newspapers.

In Reading, Year 5 will enjoy reading The Story of the Titanic to learn fascinating facts and real-life accounts of the famous voyage. They will also explore Poems from the Second World War, using poetry to understand emotions and experiences from this important period in history.

## Maths



In our Multiplication and Division topic, the children will learn to multiply numbers of increasing size—from 4-digit by 1-digit up to 4-digit by 2-digit—using methods like the area model. We will learn about short division, dividing with remainders, and solving real-life problems. In the Fractions topic, we will multiply unit and non-unit fractions by integers, work with mixed numbers, calculate fractions of quantities, find the whole, and use fractions as operators. These steps help build strong problem-solving skills and deepen understanding of number relationships.

## Science



This term, children are learning about Living Things and Their Habitats, focusing on life cycles. They will explore the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects, and birds, and compare how they differ. The unit also looks at reproduction in plants and animals, helping children understand the fascinating processes that sustain life.

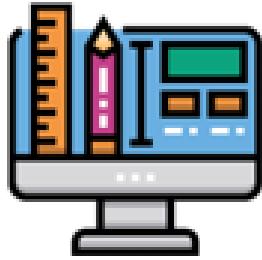
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## Computing



This term, children will be learning about physical computing using the Crumble programming environment. They'll explore how to control lights and motors by connecting components to a microcontroller and writing simple programs. Through this, they'll build on their existing coding skills, learning how to use "if...then" conditions to make decisions in their programs and apply ideas like repetition and selection in fun, hands-on projects.

## DT



This half-term we will be looking at cooking and nutrition, learning essential cooking skills and the principles of a healthy, balanced diet. They will explore where food comes from and how to prepare simple dishes safely and hygienically. As part of this unit, we also focus on using limited resources sustainably—encouraging children to think about reducing waste, choosing seasonal ingredients, and making environmentally responsible choices when cooking.

## History



In History, we will study World War II, learning about key events in chronological order. We will explore how the war began, major turning points such as the Battle of Britain and D-Day, and its impact on life in Britain, including evacuation and rationing. Through this unit, children will develop an understanding of cause and consequence, and how historical events shaped the modern world.

## Languages



In Languages, the children will begin to learn the foundations of Spanish. They learn basic vocabulary and phrases related to everyday topics such as greetings, numbers, colours, family, and classroom objects. Pupils practise pronunciation and intonation, build simple sentences, and start to understand basic grammar such as gender and verb forms.

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## Music



In Music, Year 5 will continue learning with their music teacher about playing a musical instrument. Children will develop their technical skills, learn to play and perform with accuracy and expression, and begin reading standard musical notation. They will also listen to and appraise a range of music, understanding how different elements such as rhythm, pitch, and dynamics combine to create a piece. These lessons help build confidence, creativity, and a lifelong appreciation of music.

## PE



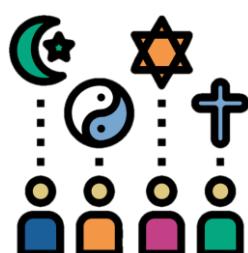
In PE, children will deepen their understanding of a range of sports by learning the specific rules, tactics, and strategies involved. They will continue to develop their teamwork skills, working more effectively with others to achieve common goals in both competitive and cooperative settings. Through structured lessons and game play, students will build confidence, resilience, and a greater appreciation for fair play and sportsmanship.

## PSHE



This half-term, children will focus on Keeping Safe and making positive choices, especially when faced with peer pressure. Lessons include spotting bullying, understanding online safety through "Play, Like, Share," and discussing real-life decision dilemmas. They will also explore topics such as vaping and risk-taking, helping them learn how to make healthy, informed decisions and resist pressure from others.

## RE



This half-term, children will explore the question: How and why do Christians read and interpret the Old Testament? They will learn that the Old Testament is an important part of the Bible, containing stories, laws, and teachings that Christians believe reveal God's relationship with humanity.