



Year 5 Curriculum Map – Autumn Term 2026

It is an absolute pleasure to welcome your child to Year 5 as they begin the next step in their learning journey. This term we will learn about what life was like during Victorian times in Britain, explore what DNA is and why it is so important, research a range of animal life cycles in science and cover a range of mental and formal strategies for all four operations in maths. In English we will be continuing to develop our comprehension skills, grammar knowledge and writing technique while studying the book *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty.

English	Maths	Science	STEAM	Computing	Humanities
<p>English: This term we will structure much of our writing around the book <i>Street Child</i> by Berlie Doherty.</p> <p>The children will write fiction and non-fiction texts, such as diary entries, letters and newspaper articles and will be encouraged to use ambitious vocabulary and multi-clause sentences in their writing. They will consider how they might write 'for the reader' when developing characters and storylines.</p> <p>Grammar: The children will learn to identify and use key grammatical features such as fronted adverbials, words and phrases, direct and indirect speech and different verb forms.</p> <p>Reading: The children will continue to build their vocabulary, understanding of author's intent and comprehension skills through <i>Street Child</i>.</p>	<p>Number and Place Value: This term the children will learn about place value up to 100 million. This fundamental knowledge will be applied and reinforced throughout the year.</p> <p>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division: The children will learn how to solve addition and subtraction problems using both mental and formal strategies. They will also further their learning of multiplication and division strategies.</p> <p>Geometry: After half-term we will move onto geometry and learn about the properties of shape, translation and reflection.</p>	<p>Life Cycles: This term the children will learn about life cycles. Using secondary sources and research, the children will extend their understanding of what a life cycle is. They will research the life cycles of some familiar (and some less familiar) mammals, amphibians, insects and birds.</p> <p>The children will compare different life cycles, identifying common features as well as explaining common differences.</p> <p>Working Scientifically: The children will develop the skills of reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations.</p>	<p>DNA: The first term's STEAM project is focused on DNA. The children will learn what DNA is and how DNA influences appearance. They will analyse what genes we share with other organisms.</p> <p>They will learn about the four bases and investigate the sequence of base pairs for their own eye colour.</p> <p>Forensics: The children will learn about the importance of forensic science. The children will apply newly learned knowledge to research, design, build and present their own forensic tool.</p>	<p>Digital Literacy Internet safety is reinforced every year and this year we pose the question 'Who do I tell if I see anything online that scares or upsets me?'. We will also explore the importance of passwords and referencing other people's work.</p> <p>Computer Science This term the children are developing their coding skills further by creating their own games. They will employ core skills such as 'collisions', IF/ELSE functions and programming and debugging objects.</p>	<p>Victorious Victorians The children will learn about the major changes that took place during the Victorian period. They will examine a range of sources and consider what life was like in many aspects of society such as in school, the workhouse, prison and mines.</p> <p>Geography objectives covered: Study similarities and differences through the study of human geography of a region of the United Kingdom.</p> <p>History objectives covered: A significant turning point in British history; changes in an aspect of social history in the 20th century.</p>

French	TPR	PSHCE/RSE	Sport	Music	Art
<p>Pupils will start learning a broader range of classroom instructions and questions. Moving on, they will revise parts of the body and learn how to say if something is hurting (using 'avoir mal à'). They will read the book Va-t'en, Grand Monstre Vert! and create monsters of their own revising colours and the need for adjectival agreement. They will end the term learning Nativity-related French Christmas vocabulary and make and write a Christmas card in French. French phonics will be incorporated into the lesson on a regular basis to increase confidence with reading French aloud.</p>	<p>The children will spend the first half of term learning about the miracles in the Bible and what these teach us about Jesus. The children will enjoy reading and acting out several of these miracles and will spend time considering what they mean for Christians.</p> <p>After half-term the children will learn about wisdom in the book of proverbs before considering how Christmas is represented in art and the media.</p>	<p>Me and My Relationships: The children will learn about a range of emotional needs and why they are important. They will continue to develop their friendship skills, including compromise, as well as understand the importance of being assertive and standing up for oneself.</p> <p>Valuing Difference: The children will learn about how different faiths, beliefs and cultures contribute positively to society. They will also learn about the influence and pressure of social media, how a person may create a false impression of their life and the impact that this can have on themselves and others.</p>	<p>Indoor PE: Indoor PE lessons focus on gymnastics, where the children choreograph their own routines, using the skills they learned and developed in previous years.</p> <p>Outdoor PE: Outdoor PE for Year 5 takes place at Hurlingham Park, where the children are taught further skills, drills and formations in football and netball. This prepares the children for the numerous fixtures and competitions during the Autumn term.</p>	<p>In music this term the children will add to their music theory knowledge by learning about the bass clef and will have their first lessons on the tin whistle. They will also explore the music of the Victorian period.</p> <p>The children will also have weekly choir practice with Year 6, learning a range of songs from well-known productions to seasonal classics ready for the Christmas carol concert.</p>	<p>The children will be looking at the work of Victorian artist and designer William Morris. They will draw flowers and leaves from observation and learn how to create a design from their drawings. The children will carve their design into lino and learn about different printing processes. They will produce a printed repeat pattern. They will learn how to develop their designs by working into the lino again to print a second colour.</p>

How can I help at home?

Year 5 completes the 11+ content and is a hugely important year. Talk to your child about current affairs to prepare them for interviews. Listen to your child read at home and ask them both literal and inference questions. This will help them when it comes to reading comprehensions and answering questions. Encourage your child to grow their vocabulary by having a thesaurus and dictionary to hand when completing homework. By defining unfamiliar words or selecting synonyms for frequently used words, they will soon develop a rich and varied vocabulary.

Develop interests in the local area: visit museums and galleries; try new cuisines; go on a 'heritage hunt' and spot the blue plaques on houses and find out about the person who lived there; explore new hobbies and sports and visit the theatre and opera. Experiences like these bring your child's education to life and give them a holistic view of London's diversity and cultural heritage.