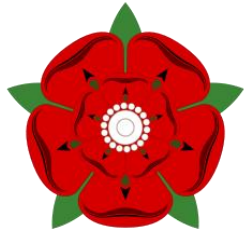


Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter



Spring Term 1 2025-2026



Welcome back

Welcome back to a new year! We hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and that you are ready for another fun-filled term at school. The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and excitement at seeing their friends and finding out about our new topics. This half-term, we are thrilled to introduce our history unit on the Tudors. As well as history, our art topic, focused on manga graphic art, will also have a Tudor theme to it. In science, we will be looking at forces and investigating their effect on certain objects. Computing will see us explore 'if, else' statements, with the intended outcome of creating a quiz with multiple questions. Here's to a fantastic half term!

Online Safety: Making Good Choices Online

As children increasingly use tablets, televisions and games at home, it's important to help them develop healthy screen habits. Through our computing curriculum, we focus is on **age-appropriate content and balance**.

At home, you can support this by:

- Checking age ratings for games, apps and TV programmes before your child accesses them.
- Using parental controls and child-friendly platforms wherever possible.
- Talking to your child about what they watch or play and encouraging them to tell an adult if something makes them feel unsure or uncomfortable.
- Keeping screen time balanced with reading, play and family time.



For further guidance, the BBC Own It website offers excellent, child-friendly advice:

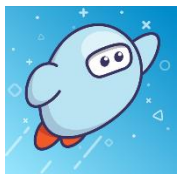
🔗 [BBC Own It - Understanding Age Ratings](#)

Physical Education

Due to swimming this term, we will have one P.E. session per week which will be on a **Monday**. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in from Monday as these days may change at short notice. **Both classes** have their initial swimming assessment lesson on **Thursday 8th January 2026**. **All children will need to bring a swimming hat, towel, bag and swimming costume/shorts**. No swimming costumes which show the stomach area or swim shorts below the knee are allowed. For the first half term, **Kestrels** will be swimming every **Thursday** so please ensure your child has their swimming bag in school. **Kites will be swimming after half term**.



As the weather is becoming colder, tracksuits bottoms and your child's school jumper are suitable for outdoor games. Appropriate footwear is essential. Please make sure children do not wear jewellery to school on these days and that they have a hair band/bobble to tie their hair back, for health and safety purposes.



Sora Online Library

Before Christmas, children were sent home with their **Sora login details**. Sora is an **online reading library** that gives children access to a wide range of texts, all in one place.

Using Sora, children can enjoy:

- Picture books and early readers
- Chapter books
- Magazines and comics
- Audiobooks (perfect for developing a love of stories and supporting comprehension)

Sora is designed to be used **together with an adult**, making it a great opportunity to share reading time at home. Children can explore new books, listen to stories being read aloud, and build confidence with reading in a fun and engaging way.

We strongly encourage families to make use of Sora alongside regular home reading. Time spent reading — whether independently, together, or through audiobooks — all supports vocabulary, comprehension and a lifelong love of books.

If you have any difficulties accessing Sora or need login details re-sent, please let us know.

Here is a selection of books linked to our first Spring term's topics which can be accessed on Sora:



Times Table Rockstars

Maths: Times Tables Rockstars - 'little and often' throughout the week (roughly 10 minutes per day), aim for an hour over the week. Fluency with times tables is an essential life skill which will support children's cognitive load as they progress through their educational journey. Maths homework includes a minimum of one **Soundcheck** every week. There are also battles between the classes to go towards the class marble treat to whichever class wins! We thank you for your support with this.



As always, your continued support is very much appreciated. If you do wish to discuss anything with us, please do contact the school office or arrange a meeting after school.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Wright
Kestrel Class Teacher



Mrs Williams
Kite Class Teacher

Diary Dates

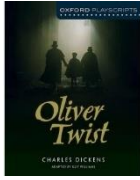
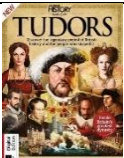
Spring term

Event	Date
Inset Day	Monday 5 th January 2026
First day of spring term	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Swimming for BOTH classes	Thursday 8 th January 2026
Swimming for Kestrel class	Thursday 15 th January 2026 (and every Thursday until half term)
Pantomime	Friday 16 th January 2026
Parliament Week	Monday 26 th January 2026
Tudor workshop	Friday 30th January 2026
Last swimming lesson for Kestrel class	Thursday 12 th February 2026
Spring half-term break	Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February 2026
Swimming begins for Kite class	Thursday 26 th February 2026
Scholastic Book Fair	Monday 2 nd March - Friday 6 th March 2026
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March 2026
Class photos	Tuesday 10 th March 2026
Last day of Spring term & last swimming lesson for Kite class	Thursday 26 th March 2026
Inset Day	Friday 27 th March 2026

Long term

Event	Date
First day of Summer term	Monday 13 th April 2026
Winchester Science Museum trip	Tuesday 14 th April 2026
Summer half-term break	Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th May 2026
Year 5 Big Camp	TBC

Our learning this term

	Spring 1	
Topic	Tudor Life	
English	Key texts: Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger – J.T. Williams.	
Reading Journey	Key texts: Incredible Journeys (non-fiction) Explore! (non-fiction) Oliver/Pinch of Salt (playscript)	 
Maths	Multiplication, Division and Fractions	
Science	Forces	
Spanish	La clase	
History/ Geography	History: Treacherous Tudors	
PSHE	Trust and loyalty	
Art	Digital manga drawing inspired by Patrick Warren	
Design and Technology		
Religious Education	Neighbours	
Computing	Programming - If, else statements	
Physical Education	Gymnastics Swimming	
Music	Frozen Land	
Trips	Tudor workshop	

Learning Links

Alongside Doodle Learning and Times Table Rock Stars, here is a list of website links that include activities/games which will allow your child to explore their learning further.

Maths

<https://uk.ixl.com/maths/year-5>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zykvwsq>

<https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm>

<https://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

<https://www.transum.org/>

<https://gridclub.com/#maths>

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

<https://uk.ixl.com/english/year-5>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbwg7v4>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb>

https://www.spellzone.com/word_lists/folder-63

<https://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk/learning-activities/languages/words/naming-nouns/>

<https://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk/learning-activities/languages/words/adjective-detective/>

<https://gridclub.com/#english>

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/grammar-vocabulary/grammar-practice>

Reading

Use the websites below to find aged-related and genre categorised books which could be great for your child:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/>

<https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/browse-by-age>

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-5/>