

# Half Term Curriculum Overview

Year 5 - Spring 1 - 2026



## English

- Pupils will be reading the book *The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas* by David Almond.
- Pupils will continue to develop their reading skills through destination reader activities, focusing on summarising, predicting, clarifying, questioning, making connections and evaluating.
- They will develop their writing style by including their own view point.
- As well as narratives, pupils will also write non-fiction text: non-chronological reports, letters.
- Pupils will be ensuring the consistent and correct use of tenses throughout a piece of writing.
- Pupils will work on their own assessment and editing, suggesting changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning.
- SPAG – spellings within the common word list for year 5 & 6; prefixes and suffixes; parenthesis, including hyphen, brackets and commas.

## Computing

- Pupils will continue to use the internet and school network safely, including being critical of online content.
- Pupils will plan their own simple computer game. They will design characters and backgrounds, and create a working prototype, which they will develop further based on feedback they receive.

## Spanish

### At the cafe:

Pupils will learn how to order from a selection of food and drinks on a Spanish Menu, ask for the bill and remember to say please and thank you.

## Music

### Changes in Pitch, Tempo and Dynamics

To know that when you sing without accompaniment it is called 'A Cappella'. To know that harmony means playing two notes at the same time that usually sound good together. To know that an ostinato is a musical pattern that is repeated over and over; a vocal ostinato is a pattern created with your voice. To know that

## Topic – Scream Machine

Pupils will be working on a topic called 'Scream Machine', which focuses upon science.

- In Scream Machine, the children will learn the secrets of theme park design and how their favourite rides work.
- Pupils will learn about tourism and theme park maps.
- Pupils will learn about the science which underpins fairground rides.
- Pupils will research the most successful theme parks and their location in the world.
- Pupils will develop their D&T skills by creating a zoetrope – an early device that created 'moving pictures'.
- Pupils will explore the art of technical drawing, using Leonardo Da Vinci as inspiration.

In additional science, they will find out about the properties of different materials.

In PHSE lessons, pupils will learn about puberty and the associated physical and emotional changes. We will also discuss physical and emotional health in general, and learn about legal and illegal drugs.



## Mathematics

- Pupils will compare and order fractions whose denominators are all multiples of the same number.
- They will identify, name and write equivalent fractions and recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions, converting from one to the other and comparing.
- Pupils will add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number.
- They will multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers.
- Pupils will begin to read and write decimal numbers as fractions, e.g.  $0.71 = 71/100$ .
- They will recognise and use thousandths and relate them to tenths, hundredths and decimal equivalents.
- Pupils will solve problems involving fractions.

## P.E.

- Pupils will be learning about the art of symmetry and asymmetry in gymnastics. They will work in pairs and groups to focus upon developing their knowledge.
- They will also be focusing on the skills of playing tennis in their games unit.

## Homework

- **Project:** Select 2 tasks from this half-term's Homework sheet.
- **Spellings:** A test each week and new spellings to be learnt – every Friday.
- **Reading:** To be completed daily.
- **Mathematics:** Weekly Maths Homework – in line with the coverage in class for that week. Every two weeks there will be an online Atom task.