



## How to Help at Home



Support at home is **invaluable** to their progress and much appreciated.

Please encourage your child to:

- Complete homework projects and learn weekly spellings
- Read regularly and enjoy the feeling of finishing a book!
- Practise and learn weekly number facts and/or times tables.

Homework each week:

- Reading - at least 15 minutes each night. Please encourage your child to read to you and we will check your child's diary weekly. Each child needs 3 comments in their reading diary per week.
- Spellings - will be given out on Mondays and quizzed the following Monday, you will find these in the back of your diary.
- Number facts to be practised regularly, ready for our Friday quiz.

Items to have in school:

- P.E kits - On a Monday, please ensure that children have tracksuit bottoms and a warm top as well as shorts and a t-shirt for indoor lessons.
- Wellingtons and a warm jacket will also be required for our 'Forest School' activities. Be prepared, children may get muddy! Forest School day is Wednesday.
- Water bottles are to be ideally named and taken home to be washed.
- Swimming kits - From February half term, 50 will need a towel, goggles and swim shorts that are not long or baggy.



## Dates for the Diary



Monday 7 Jan—Return to school  
 Monday 14, 21 and 29 Jan - NUF working with Year 5, 'Match Fit' programme'  
 Tuesday 5 Feb—Safer Internet Day, Valentine's Disco  
 Wednesday 6/Thursday 7 Feb— Judo Taster Sessions  
 Thursday 7 Feb—Healthy heart sessions with Biking Ben  
 Tuesday 12—Hoops for Heath Road Show, Parent's Consultation  
 Wednesday 13—Parent's Consultation  
 Friday 15 Feb—Break Up

Monday 25 Feb—Back to school  
 Thursday 28 Feb—NCPCC Speak out, stay safe Assemblies  
 Friday 1 March—Y5/5 Girls Football round 1  
 Monday 4-8 March—Bikability all week Y5  
 Wednesday 6 March—Y4/5- Mini basketball  
 Thursday 7 March—Y5/6 Mini Hockey, World Book Day  
 Friday 15 March—Comic Relief- Red Nose Day  
 Wednesday 3 April—Gateshead Dance Festival  
 Thursday 4 April- Hoops For Health  
 Friday 5 April - Break Up



If you have any questions or queries please do not  
 hesitate to contact Miss Jobey, Miss Ornsby or  
 Mrs Cox.

# Curriculum Overview



## Year 5



# Spring Term



## Welcome



We would like to wish you all a fantastic New Year and Welcome Back to Year 5!  
Please read on to see the fun—filled term we have in store!  
Miss Jobey, Miss Ornsby and Mrs Cox



## English Overview



We begin the New Year with a focus on the cultural traditions of China and how they are presented in stories. The children will write an epilogue to the 'Dragon Slayer' tale, in which they will create their own villain for the brave Mai-Ling to defeat. A focus on dragons will allow us to create our own non-chronological reports, in which the various species, their unique colourings and their different habitats will be organised. Following this, we will become newspaper reporters, reporting on some serious events happening in our very classrooms! After half term, we will use video media to make predictions and link to our reading skills, such as inference and deduction. Empathising with the story of Tarragon, we will write diary entries about his journey. In order to select vocabulary to enhance the meaning of our narratives, we will write a story opener, based on video stimulus: 'The Catch.'

The children will continue to learn spelling, punctuation and grammar elements such as relative clauses, apostrophes, expanded noun phrases, speech and word classes throughout their writing and spelling lessons.



## Maths Overview



In Maths, Spring term will begin with applying our knowledge of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to area and perimeter, including lots of real-life contexts and composite rectilinear shapes. From there, we will turn our attention to fractions: finding equivalent fractions; comparing and ordering fractions; represent fractions in a variety of different ways; converting mixed number fractions into improper fractions and vice versa; adding and subtraction fractions; before finally multiplying proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers. Our knowledge of fractions is certainly going to grow during this term. To support this fraction focus, the children's knowledge of their times tables will continue to be extremely important and so weekly practise is highly beneficial. Our mastery approach continues to mean that the children work through fluency, reasoning and problem solving questions for each unit of work, deepening their understanding and confidence to apply their mathematical skills in different ways.



## Science Overview



This term, in Science, we will be kicking 2019 off with a new topic: Materials. We will be exploring how to group materials by their properties, at states of matter (solids, liquids and gases), reversible and irreversible changes, dissolving, evaporation, filtering and also how some changes can produce new materials altogether. After this topic, our attention will turn to 'Living things.' This topic will allow the children to use our environmental area to see amphibian life cycles in action, along with learning about the life cycles of humans, birds, insects, plants and mammals. We will also cover habitats and why they suit certain animals more than others.



## Our Curriculum



**RE:** This term, it is 5J's chance to study the religion of Islam. Here they will be looking at the Five Pillars of Islam, the teachings of the religion such as the importance of Qur'an and their belief in one true God, as 5O begin their swimming lessons.

**History / Geography :** Our new history topic of 'Raiders and Invaders' has already captured the attention of the children. Focussing on the Vikings, we will consider why they came to Britain and why they have left such a mighty legacy in history. An enquiry based approach to history will see the children presenting their ideas with evidence and interpreting sources. After half term, we will return to our Geography studies as we investigate the vast country of Russia. Through these studies, we will learn about Russia's many time zones, biomes and how this informs us of its size. We will also look at its rivers, using terminology such as transportation, tributary and meander.

**Art / Music / DT:** In Spring 1, our art topic is closely linked to our English focus on China. Chinese art and culture will dominate, as the children develop their confidence in drawing from observation, by creating and drawing their own Chinese-inspired dragons and interpreting Chinese artefacts. In Music, the children will study the human life cycle, linked to our science studies, through the music of Brahms and Liszt. They will take part in singing, composing and performing. In Spring 2, our Design Technology topic will be 'Chinese inventions,' in which we will explore world changing inventions, including: a compass and the moveable-type printing press. We will also investigate printing and creating our own inventions.

**Computing:** We will learn how to design for a purpose, by exploring the 2Design and Make Tool and create 2D and 3D models on the computers. This will link to our DT topic, as we will consider the possibilities of 3D printing.

**PE:** We have started the year with the fantastic opportunity to work with the Newcastle United Foundation, who have come into school to teach the children about healthy eating and lifestyles, using examples from Newcastle United players. After this, we will be continuing our orienteering focus from before Christmas as the children will create their own trails and maps to test each other's understanding of symbols, agility and speed. Following this, we are lucky enough to work with members of the Newcastle Eagles, who are coming into school to train the children in basketball skills. We know that the children will enjoy this greatly.

**Forest School:** A polite reminder that children must have wellies in school every week, especially in the colder and wetter months! This term the children will be working hard to gain points for the Green Tree Award. As we already hold gold, we are hoping to achieve platinum by the Summer term!



## Creative Homework



We will be continuing our fantastic Creative Homework journey and look forward to seeing the creativity and imagination of all of the children. We were blown away by the homework we saw last term! Creative Homework allows children to work alongside family members at home and a chance to show off their imagination and ideas. Children must achieve a minimum of 15 points every half term and regular progress checks will take place to inform children if they are on target to achieve the expected points. The specific progress check points can be found at the bottom of the homework grid, each half term. Two to three lunchtime sessions per half term are also available in school to help children achieve their points.



## Out and About



We are lucky enough to welcome some sporting ambassadors this term! From Newcastle United Foundation to the Newcastle Eagles, the children will learn about the lives of athletes and how to succeed in the sporting world. Further visits to be confirmed.