



April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term! It has been lovely to see the children again after the two-week break.

Our curriculum this half term:

English - We will continue with a unit on *The Dam* by David Almond. At the end of the unit, the children will write their own story inspired by what they have read. Our grammar focus will be on using past participles at the beginning of sentences. For example: *Exhausted from the long walk, the dog rested.* After this, we will focus on using present participle phrases at the beginning of sentences. For example: *Smiling eagerly from ear to ear, the boy walked down the road.*

History - Following our exploration of Norse culture, we are moving on to learning about the second Viking Age in Britain. Children will learn about the changing rulers during this time, the Battle of Woden's field in 910, how Aethelflaed united the country before her death in 918, and Athelstan's coronation (he is widely considered the first King of England).

Geography - Last half term's learning about North and South America now leads us to focus on the Amazon. Children will learn about the Amazon Basin as a region, the rainforest as an ecosystem and how the Amazon affects the climate. They will also spend time exploring how people live in the rainforest, including learning about deforestation, human settlement, the economy, population distribution, and movement.

Science - Our new topic is 'Animals Including Humans'. Children will learn about the stages of the human life cycle and the important milestones at each stage. Children will learn how a foetus develops in a womb and about different animal's life cycles.

Maths - Children will complete units on perimeter and area, statistics, shape (angles), and position and direction. For weekly information about your child's maths learning, please see the weekly overview.

Religions and Worldviews - We will begin our new topic, 'Why are some journeys and places special?', which focuses on the concept of pilgrimage. Through this topic, we will explore significant pilgrimages within different religions. We will also be going on a trip to support our learning.

Music - This half term, we will be studying Beethoven's 5th Symphony. At school, we are using a performance by the LSO; here is the link in case children would like to listen again at home: [LSO performing Beethoven's 5th Symphony](#).

PSHE - Our next topic is 'Citizenship'. This will include an introduction to the justice system, how the UK Parliament works, and the role of pressure groups, as well as discussions about rights and responsibilities.

Computing - The children will continue with their data handling unit, focusing on the Mars Rover. Alongside this, we will continue to teach children about staying safe online.

PE - Children will be doing a dance unit that focuses on learning about dance styles through the eras, specifically the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. They will also complete football and athletics units this term.

A further note on PE

Last term, we saw an increase in children across the year group forgetting to wear appropriate clothing and footwear for PE. On their PE days, it is essential that children come to school dressed appropriately. Shoulder length hair and longer must be tied back, and in line with the school's policy, children should not be wearing any jewellery except stud earrings. Children will have to miss their PE lesson if they are not wearing appropriate clothing.

Trips

As part of our religion and worldviews curriculum, **Year 5** will be visiting **Southwark Cathedral** on the following dates:

Thursday 11th June – 5B

Friday 12th June – 5O

Thursday 18th June – 5R

Friday 19th June – 5P

Further information will be sent nearer the time.

We look forward to another full, fun and varied half term with the Year 5 children!

Yours sincerely,

The Year 5 Team