**November 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful half-term break.

**Curriculum**

**English – Tales from the Caribbean**
This half-term, we are focusing on a story called 'The Race Between Toad and Donkey' from *Tales from the Caribbean* by Trish Cooke. At the end of the unit, children will write a newspaper report about the race. Our grammar focus will be on using relative clauses and appositives.

**Maths – Multiplication and Division, Fractions**
We will continue with multiplication and division. After this, children will complete a unit on fractions. Please continue to refer to the weekly overview for more specific information. We will continue to send home end of unit assessments and post an alternative assessment for the children to practise at home.

**History - Anglo-Saxon Britain**
We will learn about the arrival of the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes in Britain, the reasons for their migration, and the impact they had on life here. The topic will also cover how Britain was divided into seven kingdoms and the spread of Christianity across the British Isles.

**Geography - Oceans**
We will learn about the difference between a sea and an ocean, identify the five oceans of the world, and explore salinity, maritime trade, and ocean currents. We will also examine the relationship between oceans and climate change, and how human behaviour is affecting our oceans.

**Science - Forces**
Building on children's previous learning, we will focus on friction, gravity, air resistance, and water resistance.

**Religions and Worldviews** - We are continuing our learning about Islam, focusing on the Five Pillars of the Islamic faith. This half-term will explore Sawm and Ramadan, Zakah, and the Hajj pilgrimage. As we deepen our understanding of Islam and what it means to be a Muslim, we will also make connections with other faiths and non-religious worldviews.

**Reading** - Children will continue to read and answer questions about fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and picture books during whole-class reading sessions.
We would like to emphasise the importance of continuing to listen to your child read aloud at home, even if they can read confidently on their own. This is incredibly beneficial for developing comprehension, vocabulary, and expressive reading skills.

**Music** - Children will learn to sing, play instruments, and improvise with *Livin' on a Prayer* by Bon Jovi.

**PSHE** – We will continue with our unit on *Healthy Self*, answering the question, how can I support my mind and body as I grow? After this, we will focus on *Connecting with Others*, answering the question, why are healthy relationships important?

**PE –** Children will prepare their dance for the school play with their class teacher. With Mario, children will practise invasion and target games (ball handling skills).

**Design & Technology** - We will be having a D&T Day this half-term, during which the children will learn to make pop-up books.

**Dates for Your Diaries:**

**Autumn Festival –** 14th November (3-7pm) West Playground
**Parents' Evening –** 18th November (4-8pm) West Hall
**Visit the Year 5 Classrooms –** 25th November (8:50am – 9:10am)
**Winter Concert –** 16th December (3.45pm onwards) West Hall
**Last day of term & Toy Day –** 18th December

We look forward to a brilliant (and busy) half-term ahead!

Yours sincerely,

The Year 5 Team