



Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter- Spring 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We are delighted to share with you the content of the Year 5 curriculum for this half term. We hope that this gives you a window into your child's learning and enables you to have conversations with your child about what is happening in school.

If you require further details about what skills and knowledge will be taught in each subject, please have a look at the curriculum page on our school website. If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Remember to follow us on X, @HighwoodSchool where we will be sharing the excellent learning that happens at Highwood.

Best wishes,

Mrs Keith and Mr Goodenough

Reminders

PE lessons: are on a Poplar – Tuesday Willow - Friday



Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE Kit. Also, long hair must be tied back, and no earrings should be worn on PE day.

Poplar Swimming on Friday.



Willow – Forest School on Monday.

Library – Wednesday



Reading records to be handed in on a Monday.

Home Learning



Home Learning - hand in on Monday and returned to the children on Wednesday.

Please see home learning grid for further details should you wish to complete it.

Daily Home Learning

- Daily reading/sharing stories and complete reading records.
- Learn Spellings by using Spelling Shed.
- Times Tables Rock stars.

English



This half term the children will be reading these key texts:



They will be producing the following pieces of written work linked to the key texts:

Letters, non-chronological reports, story openings and endings and poetry.

Maths

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- Fractions – comparing and ordering
- Measures – converting units
- Percentages
- Area and perimeter
- Capacity
- 3-D Shapes

Science: Properties and Materials

- Compare and group together everyday materials based on their properties, including hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity and response to magnets.
- Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution and describe how to recover a substance from a solution.
- Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated.
- Give reasons based on evidence from comparative tests for the particular uses of everyday materials including metals, wood and plastic.
- Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes.
- Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials and this kind of change is not usually reversible including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda.

History – Anglo-Saxons

The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them answer our Big Question:

How has the invasion of the Anglo-Saxons effected life in the UK today?



The children will explore the timeline of British history, building on their previous knowledge of Stone Age – Iron Age, Ancient Romans and now the Anglo-Saxons. Children will learn about the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms, rulers, law and religion; contrasting this to modern day Britain. Children will investigate artefacts and work with historians, gathering clues and evidence, to identify whom the artefacts belonged to.

Art

In art this term, the children will be experimenting with 3D form.

They will be learning how to use shading to create a 3D effect, as well as designing and making our own 3D structures. Furthermore, the children will be learning about where artists find inspiration and relate this to their own artwork. The children will be linking their learning to the story we are reading in guided reading 'Malamander' by Thomas Taylor.



In our PE lessons we will be learning the following key skills when participating in a variety of activities:

- To accept critical feedback and make changes.
- To see all new challenges as opportunities to learn and develop.
- To cope well and react positively when things become difficult.
- To persevere with a task and improve performance through regular practice.



The children will be learning about being vegan. They will explore the choices which have led to individuals following a vegan lifestyle.

Why do vegans feel they have a responsibility to make certain lifestyle choices?

P.S.H.E- 'Dreams and Goals'



This half term, the children will explore their own dreams and goals as well as the jobs and careers they would like in the future. They will also consider the steps they will need to take in order to reach these goals. The children will also learn about the dreams and goals of children from different cultures and explore how they can support each other to achieve their dreams.

Computing



In computing this half term, the children will be exploring Spreadsheets. They will be learning how to create a spreadsheet, input data and manipulate the structure.

As part of our e-safety learning we will focus on cyberbullying and the correct, responsible use of mobile technology.



We will be learning about melodies and harmonies. We will explore the voices that sing the melodies and the instruments used within the music in this unit to create the harmonies.

French –



L'heure et la routine quotidienne /Time and routine

The children will discuss what people usually do at certain times of the day, what school, work and life schedules look like in different French-speaking countries and how this might vary depending on where the country is geographically.