

Year 5 Half Termly Letter – Spring 1 2025

Dear parents/carers,

We wish you a merry Christmas and health and happiness in the new year.

Please find below details of our learning for the half term ahead.

Spring 1 2025	Key question: How did the Kingdom of Benin rise and fall? Great work: Benin Sculptures
Maths	In maths, we will continue to look at fractions. We will focus on adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. We will then move on to using written methods for multiplication and division. Finally, we will further our learning on fractions by multiplying fractions and mixed numbers by a whole number and finding fractions of numbers. Key Vocabulary: <i>fractions, integer, division, multiplication, remainders</i>
English	In English, we will introduce the children to the 'Benin Kingdom Creation Story' and they will write their own, using the original as inspiration. We will then move onto persuasive writing, focusing on the sculptures of the Kingdom of Benin. Key Vocabulary: <i>apostrophe, persuasion, persuasive language, relative clauses, independent clauses</i>
Religious Education	Our key question in Sikhism is, 'How did the first five Sikh Gurus shape Sikhism?'. In this unit, we will be learning about Nanak (the first Sikh Guru), why the Guru Granth Sahib is important to Sikhs, how equality is shown in the langar, Sikh weddings and Guru Arjun Dev's greatest achievement. Key Vocabulary: <i>Guru, Guru Granth Sahib, Langar, Sewa, Lavan, Anand Karaj, Adi Granth, Gurburbs</i>
Science	In Science, we will be investigating the properties of materials. The children will test what materials are best for thermal insulation, electrical conductors and insulators and will learn more about magnetism, transparency and hardness. We will end the unit thinking about the uses of everyday materials: plastic, wood and metal. Key Vocabulary: <i>electrical conductor, electrical insulator, thermal insulator, variables (independent, dependent and controlled), transparent, translucent, opaque</i>
Computing	Our new unit is, 'Selection in physical computing'. We will use physical computing to explore the concept of selection in programming through the use of the Crumble programming environment. Key Vocabulary: <i>sequences, components, output, input, algorithm, conditions</i>
History	This half term, in our history topic, we will be finding out all about the Kingdom of Benin. The focus will be on the following areas: placing the Kingdom of Benin in historical context, using images and artefacts to learn about Benin society, investigating the impact of the European settlers on trading and exploring the impact of the British. Key Vocabulary: <i>Empire, Kingdom, Oba, evidence, craftsmen, smelting, archaeology</i>
PE	In PE, we will be playing netball. We will develop our understanding of the attacking and defending principles of invasion games. During Fitness classes, we will take part in a range of activities that explore and develop different areas of our health and fitness. We will learn different components of fitness including speed, stamina, strength, co-ordination, balance and agility Key Vocabulary: <i>defending, attacking, possession, opposition co-ordination, balance, agility</i>
PSHE/PATHS/ Relationships and Health Education	In our PATHS programme, we will continue to learn about how we can make new friends and sustain happy and healthy friendships we have already created. In RSE, we will be learning about caring and responsibility. We will be learning about how our care needs change and the effects of loneliness and isolation, thinking of ways in which we can show care in the community. Key Vocabulary: <i>friendships, problems, solutions, care needs, loneliness, isolation, volunteering, community, involvement</i>
Design and Technology	We will be repurposing denim and creating tote bags. This will include the skills of cutting and sewing materials. Key Vocabulary: <i>sewing, measuring, cutting, seam, hem</i>
Art	In Art, we will be using modelling materials to recreate the famous bronzes of Benin. Key Vocabulary: <i>sculpture, bronze, contour, armature, modRoc</i>
Music	We will be exploring Hip-Hop music next term. We will be identifying the key features of hip-hop music, singing songs in the hip-hop style and performing them in groups. Key Vocabulary: <i>rhyme, rhythm, composition, performing, genres</i>
Key dates	5F Class Assembly: Friday 17 th January 380 th Anniversary Celebration: Thursday 23 rd January British Museum Trip: Friday 24 th January

Please note your child's PE Days (especially the change for 5F):

5M: Wednesday and Friday

5F: Tuesday and Friday
5K: Wednesday and Friday

Yours sincerely,

Mr Murphy (5M), Mrs Aarons (5K) and Mrs Fitzgerald (5F)