

RE and Values

In RE this half term, we will be focusing on the question:

'Why is wisdom important?'

We will be developing our understanding of wisdom and how this is taught in the Bible. We will be looking at the Book of Proverbs and seeing how we can apply wisdom in our everyday life.

We will also be investigating the question:

'How do art and music convey Christmas?'

We will be observing different pieces of religious art and listening to Christmas carols along with more modern Christmas music to answer this question.

In Values, we will be looking at **'Dreams and goals'** which focuses on what we would like to achieve and what steps we need to take

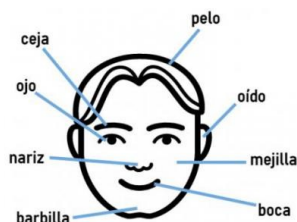
Homework

Homework will be handed out each week on a **Friday** with the expectation that it will be returned to school by **Tuesday**.

Informal spelling tests will take place every **Friday afternoon** based on the ten words children have been practising that week. Every four weeks, children will complete a spelling test of ten words which will be based on the learnt spelling rule.

Spanish

Year 5 will be continuing to learn Spanish this year and their unit this half term is the **'Describing myself'**. We will be focussing on learning the different parts of the face and body as well as adjectives to describe these!



Towards the end of the half term, we will be learning all about Christmas traditions in Spain and comparing them to our own traditions.



St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

Welcome to back to school!

I hope you all had a restful half term. We have a fantastic half term planned and we are looking forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions, feel free to organise a meeting with an adult from the year 5 teaching team and we will be happy to help.

Key dates

**Parent telephone consultations
20.11.20**

You will have signed up for a time slot for a phone call meeting to discuss your child's academic progress and wellbeing at school. This is in place of the usual parents evening this year.

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated reading is on **Monday**.

Please remember to bring your AR book into school everyday.



PE

PE is on **Friday**.

Please remember to bring in full PE kits on this days.

The focus this term will be gymnastic skills.

Science

Our science unit this half term is:

'Forces'

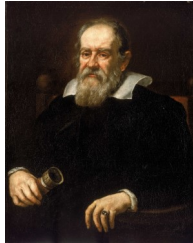
We will be conducting practical scientific enquiries every lesson and learning all about:

- Forces as pushes or pulls
- The force of gravity
- The effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction
- Mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears.

Key vocabulary we will be using is: gravity, resistance, friction, mechanism, drag

Our key scientist is **Galileo**

Galileo was an Italian scientist. His most famous scientific experiment was when he dropped two objects of different weights from the leaning tower of Pisa to see if they fell at the same speed. He is also famous for discovering the telescope!

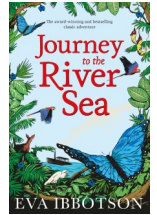


English

Our class reader this half term is:

'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson

We will begin the half term writing an information text about all about China. After this, we will be writing a diary entry from the perspective of Maia who is the main character in our class reader.



Our **SPAG focuses** will be:

- Modal verbs for possibility (eg. could, should, would, might, can, ought etc.)
- Using relative clauses
- Using semi-colons

As a class focus, Year 5 are working on their spellings. This half term, we will be focusing on **homophones**:

- We're, where and were
- Which and witch
- They're, their and there
- Wait and weight
- Bored and board

Any extra spelling practice on these words in sentences at home will be very helpful.

Humanities

This half term, our geography topic in humanities is:

'China—How are rivers and mountains formed?'



Year 5 will be using China as a focus point to develop their knowledge of the physical geography of rivers and mountains. We will be using maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping tools to locate mountains and rivers and understand how they are formed. We will be looking at the River Yangtze in China as well as Mount Everest and The Himalayas Mountains.

Key vocabulary we will be using is: Earth's crust, tectonic plates, domes magma, erosion, tourists, economic activity

Maths

The fundamentals that we will be focusing on this half term are:

Multiplication and division

- *Identifies factors & multiples finding all factor pairs & common factors.
- *Solves $x \div$ problems using factors, multiples, scaling, squares & cubes.
- *Knows and uses prime numbers, prime factors and composite numbers. (with rapid recall of primes to 19)

Statistics

- *Completes, reads and interprets information in tables, including timetables.

Children will be continuing their times tables practise on a daily basis. Please do encourage them to practice at home. They have a timetables rockstars login which is a great programme to support them in their learning and fluency.