

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring A 2026



Welcome back to the new school year which will be busy with lots of exciting things to learn and do. This half term we will be focussing on: letter writing, story writing and instructions in English; fractions, decimals and angles in maths; the Ancient Greeks in history; Earth and Space in science; dance and football in PE; and learning a wider selection of songs to play on the ukulele.

An overview of planning for this half term is available on the school website under the 'What We Do' section. This sets out all the subjects and learning that children will be doing every week.

<https://www.becontreeprimaryschool.com/>

Year 5 Expectations and Arrangements

PE days: Our PE days are Wednesdays (indoor) and Mondays (outdoor).

PE kit: Children are expected to wear plain black shorts/long bottoms (while the weather is colder), a plain black sweatshirt, a plain white t-shirt and suitable footwear for running.

Behaviour: All children are expected to follow the 5 R's:

Respectful to All

Ready to Learn,

Resilient and never giving up,

Reflective and always trying to improve,

Responsible behaviour at all times.

Snacks: KS2 children are allowed to bring in their own snacks for playtimes. These snacks must be healthy and not sugary treats, e.g., fresh and dried fruit, crackers, breakfast bars and popcorn.

Lunches: It is essential that children are provided with a healthy packed lunch and one that gives them enough nutrition for the day's learning.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Water: Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school each day with unflavoured/non fizzy water only.

Home Learning Information

Our Home Learning Strategy can be found on the school website.

<https://www.becontreeprimaryschool.com/home-learning-strategy/>

This sets out a range of essential, as well as optional tasks, which are completed at home independently, or supported by a parent/carer.

Key home learning all year 5 children are expected to do, includes:

- **Daily Reading** (10 minutes or more per day). Children will be keeping track of their reading in school.
- Spelling practice online using **Spelling Shed** (1-2 times weekly). Practising words from the Year 5 Spelling List.
- Times tables practice online using **Times Tables Rock Stars** (1-2 times weekly).
- Optional **Duolingo** to practise French/Optional **Anton App**.
- Optional **Anton APP** and **CGP book** practice.

Speak to the class teacher if you do not have online access at home so we can look at options to support your child.

For further **optional home learning ideas**, refer to our Home Learning Ideas section attached to the end of this letter.

Our Year 5 Team



Mrs Peters (Class Teacher)
Music and RE Lead



Ms Limani (Class Teacher)



Mrs Begum (Learning Support)

Key Events and Dates this Half term

January				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Staff INSET Day School Closed to Children	6 	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19 Online bookings open for Parent Teacher Consultations Road Safety Workshops this week 	20 Year 5 and 6 Meeting for this year's residential to Trewern Enter via office- 4:30pm 	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30 Year 3 – 6 French Day  Non-uniform: children wear red, white and/or blue, and do French themed activities in school.
February				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Times Table challenge week 	3 Parent Teacher Consultations 	4	5 Parent Teacher Consultations 	6 Safer Internet Day 
9 Year 5 and 6 Trewern Week  Normal school week for other children Mental Health Week Activities completed in school	10 Year 5 and 6 Seafood cooking workshops 	11	12	13  Reading Holiday project shared 

Home Learning Ideas

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These optional Home Learning ideas are linked to the learning areas covered this half term.

Be a Mathematician...

Cut out shapes such as squares, triangles, rectangles, or circles. Try to find fractions of the shapes by folding. Can a shape be folded into two, three, four, five equal parts? Investigate different ways to make fractions. For example, can you fold the shape diagonally? Find different ways to fold the shapes in half.

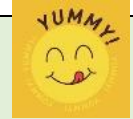
Work through the four levels on a fraction, decimals and percentages matching game on nrich: <https://nrich.maths.org/1249>

Scroll down to the interactive tool to play.

Explore fractions as decimals when shopping. Compare prices or dimensions with the same number of decimal places, for example, items costing £1.67 and £1.76. Can they say which number is bigger and explain why?

Fraction	Decimal	Percentage	Image
$\frac{1}{2}$	0.5	50%	
$\frac{1}{4}$	0.25	25%	
$\frac{3}{4}$	0.75	75%	

Be a Writer...



Write your own recipe instructions. This could be for a favourite snack, a family dish, or something they enjoy baking or making independently. To write clear instructions follow these steps:

- **Choose your task** – Decide what you want to teach someone to do.
- **Write a clear title** – Make sure it tells the reader exactly what they will learn.
- **List what you need** – Include ingredients or equipment before the steps.
- **Use time connectives** – Start steps with words like *First*, *Next*, *Then*, *Finally*.
- **Use imperative (bossy) verbs** – Begin each instruction with action words such as *mix*, *cut*, *stir*, *pour*.
- **Keep steps clear and short** – One idea per step to avoid confusion.
- **Add useful details** – Include timings, measurements, or safety tips.
- **Check your instructions** – Read them through and make sure they make sense.

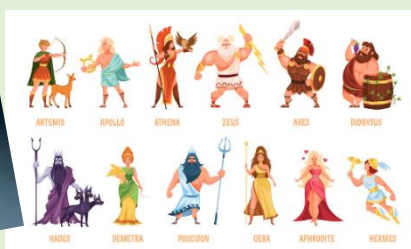
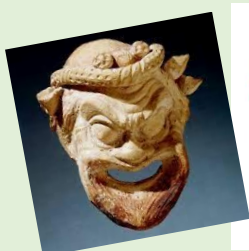
Enjoy your cooking or baking!

Be a Historian...

Draw a map of Ancient Greece. Label the seas surrounding Greece and include the cities of Sparta and Athens.

Research about the Greek Gods and make a fact file on the one that interested you most.

Ancient Greek actors wore masks in theatre to depict different characters and emotions. Create your own mask for the theatre.



Be an Artist ...

Create a sculpture of an Ancient Greek pot out of play-doh or plasticine.

Create a painting of an Ancient Greek pot.

Draw a sketch of an Ancient Greek pot and label it.



