Year 5
Spring Term 2

What was life like in Tudor England?

English

In our study of *The Watertower* by Gary Crew, students will deepen their understanding of the text by exploring its themes, mood, and mysterious elements. A key focus will be on writing dialogue, where children will practise creating conversations between characters to show feelings, build tension, and develop the storyline. Through this, they will strengthen skills in comprehension, inference, vocabulary use, punctuation of speech, and creative writing.

In Guided Reading, we will be studying *Journey to Jo'burg* and poetry by Benjamin Zephaniah, developing our comprehension and performance skills. Throughout these lessons, children will focus on improving their fluency, prosody, inference, and vocabulary understanding, while also building confidence through discussion, self-assessment, and expressive reading.

We will continue to reinforce spelling strategies, with a focus on learning tier 2 vocabulary in SPaG lessons and encourage continued development of neat legible, joined up handwriting.

Parent Information

In Year 5, our PE days will be Wednesday and Thursday. The children will need to come in wearing the appropriate PE kit on these days **with piercings removed and long hair tied back.**

Every week spellings will be sent home on a Friday. These will need to be practised at home and learnt ready for a spelling test the following week. Children will also need to log into Times Table Rockstars every week and learn their set times tables which they will be tested on at least once a week.

To secure progress, please ensure children are reading independently and also to an adult at least five times a week and ensure this is recorded in their homework planner.

Music

We are going to be creating school raps based on our school values. The children will be using different rhythms within their compositions. They will apply their knowledge of poetry to help with rhythm and rhyme. These will be performed within classes.

Science

This term, children will be learning about forces that oppose motion, including friction, air resistance, and water resistance. They will develop key scientific skills such as making predictions, carrying out fair tests, recording and analysing results, using scientific vocabulary accurately, and explaining their findings using evidence.

RE

Our theme will be Sacrifice linked to Christianity. The children will be exploring the Easter Story and how sacrifice plays a significant role in it. The children will be thinking about their own personal response to the concept of sacrifice.

Computing

The children will be developing their programming skills using the programme Scratch. They will be learning how to incorporate the programming skill of selection into their own algorithms.

Maths

This term in Maths, children will be learning about fractions, geometry, and addition and subtraction. They will develop their understanding of fractions by recognising, comparing and calculating with parts of a whole. In geometry, they will explore shapes, angles, and their properties, as well as position and direction. Through addition and subtraction, they will build fluency, accuracy, and confidence when solving both written and mental calculations.

Alongside this, children will strengthen their problem-solving and reasoning skills, learning how to explain their thinking clearly and apply their knowledge to a range of mathematical contexts.

At the end of the unit, we will be assessing their progress through three maths papers: one arithmetic paper, which focuses on calculation skills, and two reasoning papers, which assess their ability to apply their understanding to solve problems and explain their answers.

History

This term, children will be learning all about the Tudors, exploring key figures like Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, and discovering what life was like during this fascinating period. Along the way, they will develop important skills such as historical enquiry, critical thinking, comparing sources, timeline work, and presenting their ideas clearly through discussion and writing.

PSHE

We will be looking at computer safety with a focus on image sharing. We will also be looking at the working world. The children will understand the role money has in businesses as well as how a business works. Within this unit, we will be exploring other important life skills.

PE

Within our PE lessons, the children will be learning how to play badminton. They will focus on building fundamental skills such as proper grip, footwork, serving, and rallying. During their second PE session each week the focus is on golf; where we will build focus, patience, integrity, and confidence.