

# Year 5 – Subject Overview

## 2024-2025



### Autumn 1

Subject	Overview
English	<p>Our focus this half term will be based on Nina Bawden's World War II evacuee story, <i>Carrie's War</i>. We will learn about how Staffordshire assisted with Operation Pied Piper, sheltering evacuated children during the risk of German bombing. We will use this book to help build our grammar and punctuation knowledge, developing our learning from Year Four with a greater awareness and usage.</p> <p>We will also be developing our understanding of different reading comprehension skills, such as vocabulary, inference, retrieval and sequencing information. These skills will be used throughout the year, and are beneficial when reading deeper and understanding texts to a higher level.</p> <p>In our SPaG lessons, we will be learning to consistently punctuate direct speech correctly, as well as using relative clauses to add detail to our sentences.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be consolidating our knowledge of increasingly larger numbers, examining the place value of tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands. This will then lead us into working with the formal written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.</p>
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE - In RE this term, children will be exploring the creation story in more depth, posing and pondering questions about what it means to be made in the image and likeness of God. They will particularly focus on how they have a responsibility to live out their lives in the image of God by using their talents. The children will have the opportunity to lead times of collective worship and class based liturgy as well as leading prayers throughout the day.</p>
Science	<p>Building on knowledge gained in earlier year groups we will be learning about working scientifically to create experiments and hypotheses which we can test and measure results of. We will begin by exploring the physical properties of materials and how physical changes occur to</p>

	solids, liquids, and gases, and how materials undergo reversible or irreversible changes.
PE	<p><i>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</i></p> <p>PE - This half-term, Year 5 will be developing and improving our invasion skills during handball lessons, which also allows us to practice throwing/catching skills, teamwork, cooperation, and sportsmanship. We will also be attending our statutory swimming lessons, which help us to achieve the target of all children being able to safely swim a minimum of 25m by the end of primary school, as well as understanding about water safety.</p>
History	<i>This half term the children will be focusing on the ideas of locality, changes through time, and impacted lifestyles. The children will have the opportunity to ponder key questions about significant events of the past in the local area and reflect and understand the importance of these events, people and inventions on their own lives. Their studies will focus on the importance of mining within Kidsgrove.</i>
Art	<i>During this half term Year Five will be creating artwork using typography and maps. They will explore how they can create their own fonts and designs. Children will explore how we can use visual letters and other elements to help convey ideas and emotions. Children will then go on to create their own visual and often three dimensional maps.</i>
Computing	<i>We will begin this year by revisiting the topic of internet safety, and issues around online bullying, appropriate use of technology, and risks of false information or news that can be prevalent in the world today. In addition, we ask that all children feel comfortable using devices at home for their homework, whether this is a laptop, PC, tablet or mobile phone. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact the school to discuss what we can do to support you.</i>
French	<i>We will be revisiting previously learnt vocabulary through games and "repeat after me" activities. Children should be confident with colours, numbers up to 20, and greetings.</i>

## Autumn 2



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Overview</b>
English	Our focus this half term will be on reading and creating poetry. Our main piece for this work will be The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes, a narrative poem of love, death, and betrayal. Towards the end of the term we will also be looking at a seasonal picture book from which we will be creating our own non-fiction writing pieces. This will allow us to explore figurative devices, such as similes, metaphors, alliteration and hyperbole. We will then apply this learning to a variety of other poems.

	<p>We will be continuing to develop our understanding of sentence structure, and how to compose interesting and varied paragraphs that captivate and engage the reader, without making mistakes.</p> <p>In our SPaG lessons, we will be learning about more complex adverbs for possibility and frequency, as well as the purpose of modal verbs in our writing.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be moving our learning on to the three types of fractions (proper, improper, and mixed), as well as continuing our learning about multiplication and division strategies. This will then allow us to perform operation on fractions, such as adding and subtracting. We will improve our confidence with equivalent fractions, and knowing how to solve questions by converting to equivalence.</p>
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE- In RE this term, children will be taking a deeper look at the miracles Jesus performed, and how these relate to the Sacrament of the Sick, performed in the name of Christ by priests around the world today to people in need. We will also be exploring the significance of the season Advent in the preparation for celebrating Christmas. The children will have the opportunity to lead times of collective worship during class-based liturgies and prayers throughout the year.</p>
Science	<p>This half term continues our exploration of physical materials, where we shall be looking at dissolving solid materials in liquids to create solutions, and performing an experiment to demonstrate our knowledge of variables and controls. Later, we will then ask how we can reverse this process, retrieving dissolved material from the solvent, understanding the real-world uses of separating materials.</p>
PE	<p>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</p> <p>PE - This half-term, Year Five will be continuing to attend our statutory swimming lessons, which help us to achieve the target of all children being able to safely swim a minimum of 25m by the end of primary school, as well as understanding about water safety.</p> <p>For swimming lessons, all children must have a swimming cap (available for purchase from Alsager Leisure Centre) as well as a suitable swimming costume (single-piece costume for girls, swimming trunks or briefs for boys—Bermuda shorts are not suitable) and a towel in a waterproof bag.</p>
Geography	<p><i>This half term the children will be focusing on the concepts of urban growth and population increase, by examining some of the numerous megacities around the globe, comparing and contrasting their infrastructure and history, as well as questioning how and why some cities have become centres of commerce and industry.</i></p> <p><i>As part of these lessons will be learn about global population increase, natural resource management, and the benefits and drawbacks of increasing urban landscapes.</i></p>

Art	<i>During this half term Year Five will be learning about how we view our world, particularly our urban cityscapes. We will begin by understanding the theory of artwork through the 8 elements of art, including colour theory, shape, line, tone and pattern. We will then analyse and critique a number of famous pieces of artwork, before beginning to look at the work of Jeremy Mann, whose dark and gritty style of painting will be used to learn about how emotion and feeling is revealed through technique and key elements of art.</i>
Computing	<i>This halfterm we will be discovering the extended features of Microsoft Powerpoint, using it to create a visually appealing slideshow about a topic, object, person, hobby or activity. We will learn to use the formatting tools, inserting pictures and text accurately and for a purpose, and making aesthetic choices with the colours and fonts used. We will then finish our slideshows by using appropriate animations and transitions, before demonstrating our work to the whole class as an oral presentation.</i>
French	<i>This half term we will increase our confidence in oracy, widening the range of vocabulary and phrases we can speak. We will learn how to talk about how we are feeling and responding to conversational French dialogue. Towards the end of this term we will also learn about some common objects and decorations related to Christmas, using translations for the children to understand and noun-adjective relationship in French.</i>



## Spring 1

Subject	Overview
English	<p>Our focus this half term is to understand how engagement within literature is influenced by formatting and illustrations, and how non-fiction books are important for advancing our own learning. We will do this through an illustrated biography of Neil Armstrong. We will then read and write our own biographies based on historically significant figures throughout the twentieth century. To conclude this half term we will take our first dip into a Shakespearean story, which will include reading and speaking some 17th Century authentic language from the source script, as well as discovering a number of modern adaptations.</p> <p>Our class writing target this term is to improve and maintain neat handwriting, using consistently legible script in our writing and using correct cursive technique.</p> <p>In our SPaG lessons, we will be learning to utilise parenthesis in our writing using commas, dashes and brackets, as well as formulating concise expanded noun phrases using correct word choice.</p>
Maths	<i>This half term we will be improving our knowledge of multiplication and division of increasingly larger numbers. We will then explore fractions and decimals in greater detail, increasing our confidence when</i>

	<p>performing calculation involving these numbers. We will also spend some time understanding logical reasoning problems, calculations written in word form, which can sometimes be a challenge.</p>
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE -In RE this half term, children will be exploring the Christmas story, relating to concepts appropriate to their age and understanding, such as the jealousy of King Herod, and the arduous journey that Mary and Joseph undertook in their escape to Egypt to keep Christ safe. At the end of January we will examine the Sacrament of Baptism, and also read and evaluate the parables and sayings of Jesus, as he taught us the message of God's presence today. The children will have the opportunity to lead times of daily collective worship and weekly class based liturgy.</p>
Science	<p>This half term we will be exploring the exciting topic of Earth and Space, learning about the planets in our solar system, and discovering how celestial movement causes changes on Earth, such as day and night, seasonal weather patterns, and the phases of the moon.</p> <p>I highly recommend your spend some time outside with your children, now that the evenings are darker earlier, enjoying and learning about the wonders of the constellations that are visible to us, as well as observing the changing phases of the moon throughout the month.</p>
PE	<p>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</p> <p>PE -This half-term, we will be developing our co-ordination co-operation skills, as well as devising our own choreographed gymnastic routine that will demonstrate control, flexibility and balance. The children will also be tasked with providing coaching and critique for their peers, working to understand how the 'social' aspect of physical education directly influences the 'active' strands.</p> <p>We will also be visiting our collegiate partner, Saint Margaret Ward Catholic High School, who are kindly allowing us the use of their fantastic sport facilities to showcase some sports and activities that we might not otherwise have the chance to participate.</p>
History	<p><i>This half term the children will be exploring the ancient Maya civilisation in Mesoamerica, a civilisation that existed for over two thousand years, yet has kept many secrets hidden within the confines of the dense rainforest, and remain to be discovered. We will examine what is currently known about their culture, society, writing and numeracy systems, and religious beliefs, and learn about how our understanding of historical knowledge is based on primary and secondary sources, and how to differentiate between these two evidences.</i></p>
Design Technology	<p><i>During this half term we will be integrating our DT lessons with our science lessons: we will attempt to launch a homemade rocket using liquid propulsion. We will research about rockets from the 1950's onwards, their construction and purpose. We will then plan and design our own rocket. For some of these lessons we will be asking children to collect clean recyclable materials from home, such as cardboard boxes and</i></p>

	<i>hard-plastic containers which can be used for their construction, and understanding the physical properties of different materials.</i>
Computing	<i>This half term we will be learning about the powerful features in Microsoft Excel, using the program as a calculator, but also as a fully functional business organiser. We will plan and design our own business, managing the profit and loss, as well as maintaining a budget. We will learn some simple formula equations to automate many processes.</i>
French	<i>In our French lessons this half term we will continue to expand our conversational French, by including concepts relating to schools subjects, my emotions, and why I like/dislike something. We will also study the French traditional holiday of La Chandeleur.</i>

## Spring 2



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Overview</b>
English	<p>Our focus this half term is to improve our grammar and punctuation through writing with a variety of sentence styles, and ensuring we have appropriate word choices in our work.</p> <p>We will be reading our second story by William Shakespeare, and using this text to compose a script, understand character motivations, and the conflict between people.</p> <p>In our SPaG lessons, we will be learning to recognise and use a new verb tense, known as the "perfect" tense, to show completed actions. To do this we will expand our knowledge of auxiliary verbs "had, have, has, will have" and the different verb participles that may be used.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be consolidating our knowledge of decimals, fractions and percentages . We will then explore area and perimeter, including in complex composite shapes. And finally we will look at data handling using different types of graphs, charts, tables and diagrams.</p>
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE - In RE this half term, children will be learning about the way that Jesus taught the world to appreciate the Kingdom of God through his parables and teachings. We will delve into the meaning behind some common parables, as well as recognising how these are as relevant to the modern world as they were two thousand years ago.</p> <p>We will also be learning about the liturgical period of Lent, and how we can recognise the importance of the three pillars of penitence: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This will eventually lead us towards Holy Week at the end of the term, as we prepare for Easter. During this period we will also be celebrating Lent with child-led prayer sessions, giving us the chance to lead the school in worship together.</p>
Science	<p>This half term we will be learning about various forces that act upon the physical world, and how we can observe and measure these forces. We will learn about Isaac Newton and his "discovery" of gravity, as well as</p>

	<p>the concepts of push/pull and drag/momentum. We will perform a variety of experiments to investigate air resistance, water resistance, and surface friction.</p> <p>We will also undertake a demonstration of how simple mechanical devices provide advantage to force, such as pulleys, levers, and gears.</p>
PE	<p>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</p> <p>PE -This half-term Year 5 will be developing their strategic thinking through Health Related Exercise (HRE) and Cricket. This will help us to improve our communication and group tactical play. We will expand on the core skills we were building last term, including throwing, catching, movement, and anticipating the direction of play. Through HRE we will learn about different types of exercise, the effects of regular exercise on the physical body as well as the mental benefits of leading a health active lifestyle.</p>
Art	<p>During this half term we will be expanding our previous art topic, cityscapes, into a relaxing and intriguing look at how artists saw the world around us. By looking at a variety of landscape artists and their techniques, we will develop and improve our own skills. Our focus artist this half-term is Georgia O'Keeffe, whose landscape representations of New Mexico help us to learn about positioning and colour theory, as well as the base elements of tone and line.</p>
Geography	<p>This half term the children will be investigating and improving their knowledge of human and physical geography by researching and learning about the country of Mexico. We will compare and contrast what we learn to the more familiar geography of Great Britain. We will learn about weather and climate, physical features such as mountains and rivers, as well as human features such as cities, populations, average lifestyle and life expectancy. We will also revisit the use of geographical resources, such as atlases and digital mapping tools, to secure our locational knowledge of different places in the world.</p>
Computing	<p>We will be learning how computing programming and coding algorithms work to create functional applications and programs. We will be learning a version of "block coding" using Scratch, a free to access interface that can be accessed at home too. Children we develop their own computer game using algorithms, functions and variables. They will learn about errors and bugs, and the process of debugging computer code.</p>
French	<p>This half term we will learn the names for many types of foods and beverages, and begin to form common dialogue phrases that might be used on a holiday when visiting a restaurant. We will discuss what food we like and dislike. We will also explore another traditional French holiday, Mardi Gras, the celebration of the preparation for the season of Lent.</p>



## Summer 1

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Overview</b>
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English	<p>Our focus this half term is to read and understand texts that have a basis in history, including a modern adaptation of Beowulf, one of the earliest known epic poems, written around 1000 AD. We will use this book to inspire us to write non-chronological reports, character and setting descriptions using expanded phrases, and narrative tales to visualise our literacy work through roleplay and drama.</p> <p>We are also continuing to improve our writing in general, looking at word prefixes (de-, dis-, mis-, re-, over-) as well securing our knowledge about word classes and the purpose of verb tenses in our grammar lessons.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be delving into calculating angles and using protractors to measure angles, including recognising geometry facts about 2D and 3D shapes, and measuring lines and angles within shapes. We will revisit the topic of co-ordinates, and expand our learning by using 2-quadrant charts, and learning how to translate and reflect points and shapes accurately. We will finish this term by looking at more complex arithmetic using decimal numbers, ensuring we are confident with adding and subtracting numbers below the decimal point.</p>
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE - This half term, children will be gaining a deeper awareness of how we appreciate the Easter season, exploring the symbolism and traditions used to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. We will also investigate Pentecost and learn about the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, and the affirmation prayer The Apostles Creed.</p>
Science	<p>This half term we will be looking at reproduction in plants and animals, including humans. These lessons will take place alongside the Relationship, Health and Sex Education lessons (RHSE), and can provoke many curious questions from young minds. We will understand the different stages of life that human beings go through, from fertilisation to old age, and how our bodies develop and change throughout our whole life. We will learn about the increasing role of hormones within adolescent bodies, as well as understanding the importance of constructing healthy, active, hygienic routines.</p>
PE	<p>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</p> <p>PE - This half-term Year 5 will be improving their athletic skills in a range of sporting activities, including the three main areas of running, throwing, and jumping. We will develop our confidence in coaching and supporting each other, working in teams to show sustained improvement across the half-term.</p> <p>We will also be introducing the activity of orienteering through the P.E. curriculum of outdoor adventurous activity, which will also help us to demonstrate core fundamentals such as direction, movement, teamwork and communication.</p>
History	<p>To complement our topic this half term, the children will be learning about Britain in the period between 400AD and 1600AD, when early Britain was invaded and settled by the Anglo-Saxon tribes. We will discover how these newcomers helped create and shape the land we</p>

	know today as England, including our language, our laws, our cities, and our religion.
Art	During this half term we will be improving our skills with sketching and colouring. We will learn techniques for pencil colouring to ensure blending, fading and toning are effective forms of colouring. We will then be inspired by mythical beasts from historical fiction, sketching and planning a monstrous piece of art, which we will then apply previously learnt skills to the use of clay and paint as media for our final project.
Computing	This half term we will learn about the technique of animation throughout the last century, from hand-drawn frame-by-frame animation, to stop-motion freeze frames and computer generated images. We will then apply this knowledge using stop-capture software to create a short film using playdoh and desktop objects.
French	This half term we will consolidate our learning about colours and numbers alongside new learning about names for body parts. We will learn a French translation of "head, shoulders, knees and toes," and apply our learning to sentences about mythical monsters.

## Summer 2



Subject	Overview
English	<p>Our main reading text this half term is Michael Morpurgo's <i>Kensuke's Kingdom</i>, a modern castaway tale. Using this book we will explore a variety of writing types including diaries, narrative writing, and balanced arguments.</p> <p>We are also continuing to improve our spelling and grammatical knowledge by ensuring we utilise previously learnt rules into our work independently, as well as using an engaging variety of sentence styles and grammatical features to improve our writing.</p> <p>In our SPaG lessons, we will be learning to edit and improve our work for cohesion and clarity, avoiding noun repetition and needless adjectives in our writing.</p>
Maths	This half term we will ensure our knowledge of long multiplication and short division are solid, while also learning about data handling in mathematics (charts, tables, graphs and timetables). We will practice and improve our learning about fractions, decimals and percentages, including converting between the three types, and using them in real-life contexts. We will then recap previously learnt areas in order to secure those challenging topics, making sure we are ready for next year.
RE	<p><i>Please see the 'Catholic Life' tab on our website to see which Virtue we are focussing on this half term.</i></p> <p>RE -In RE this half term, we will begin by celebrating the season of Pentecost and children will be learning about the work of the Apostles subsequent to Jesus' ascension to Heaven. We will read about and explore the problems they faced and how the teachings they undertook were vital to the early Church community. We will also learn about the</p>

	<p>Sacrament of Holy Orders and the Sacrament of Marriage, and how these two traditions show a commitment from ourselves to others, and the roles and responsibilities we have in our lives.</p>
Science	<p>This half term we will be continuing our learning about reproduction in plants and animals, including lifecycles of various animal species. We will compare and contrast the reproduction and lifecycles for different types of animals (fish, reptiles, birds) compared to mammals. Our learning will also explore some famous scientists and naturalists who studied the world around us, in order to help us understand it.</p>
PE	<p>Please see website to see which day your child has PE this half term.</p> <p>PE -This half-term we will be developing our skills at invasion games, attacking and defending, using the sport of tag rugby as our vehicle for learning. This will allow us to improve our techniques of running, passing, catching and teamwork.</p> <p>We will also be continuing our lessons in dance, welcoming back Miss Georgina to help us compose a piece of work that blends contemporary and modern movements within a specific theme.</p>
Design Technology	<p>This half term we will learn about physical construction using a variety of materials, and particularly how to strengthen joints and corners. This will allow us to construct a habitat, such as a small sturdy box, bird house, or shelter.</p> <p>We also hope to have an on-site field day in the forest area, learning to construct a temporary shelter from everyday materials, such as Michael on Kensuke's island may have needed to do to survive.</p>
Geography	<p>To complement our topic this half term, the children will be learning about the various climate zones and biomes around the world, and researching how these include flora, fauna and weather patterns, as well as the diverse landscapes of our world. We will also learn about issues and problems facing our natural world, including pollution, deforestation, reduced biodiversity, and human habitation encroachment.</p>
Computing	<p>This half term we will explore the world of physical coding, using Micro:Bits. Using easily recognisable block-coding that utilises simplified Python language, we will develop a number of functions, such as a displaying a word on a scrolling display, a random number generator, or a thermometer.</p>
French	<p>We will learn the French names for the planets in our solar system, as well as applying adjectives to them, confidently recalling the noun-adjective order. We will be speaking in longer sentences, and understanding common everyday phrases.</p>