

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 1 2025

This term in year 5, your child will be participating in some exciting new learning. To get them ready for this and to support you in understanding some of what they will be learning at school, we have collated some ideas for you to enjoy together at home and out and about.

Topics we are learning about:

- Science - Forces
- History– Shang Dynasty
- Maths - Number and Place Value
- Reading and Writing - *The Boy at the Back of the Class*
- PSHE - Wellbeing
- Art - Colour Theory

Books to read/listen to and share:



For more year 5 books see:

[https://
schoolreadinglist.co.uk/
reading-lists-for-ks2-school-
pupils/suggested-reading-list-
for-year-5-pupils-ks2-age-9-
10/](https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-5-pupils-ks2-age-9-10/)

Maths:

In the first term of Autumn, Year 5 will be focusing on Number and Place Value. Students will deepen their understanding of the value of digits in large numbers, as well as enhancing their skills in comparing and ordering these numbers. Through a variety of engaging activities, they will also learn to round numbers to the nearest ten, hundred, and thousand. We look forward to seeing their progress in this vital area of mathematics.

Things to create:

- **Science - Forces:** Create a simple catapult using spoons and elastic bands to demonstrate force and motion.
- **History – Shang Dynasty:** Construct a model of a Shang Dynasty palace using recycled materials.
- **Maths - Number and Place Value:** Design a personalised number line with drawings that represent various numbers.
- **Reading and Writing - The Boy at the Back of the Class:** Write a character diary entry from the perspective of one of the characters.
- **PSHE - Wellbeing:** Craft a 'gratitude jar' to encourage positive reflections.
- **Art - Colour Theory:** Experiment with mixing paints to create a colour wheel.

Places to visit:

- Science - Forces: The Science Museum offers interactive exhibits on forces and motion.
- History – Shang Dynasty: The British Museum hosts artefacts from Ancient China, including the Shang Dynasty.
- Maths - Number and Place Value: The London Transport Museum explores

Websites to explore

- **Reading and Writing - The Boy at the Back of the Class:** Discover discussion questions and related activities from the Author's website.
- **PSHE - Wellbeing:** Access resources on Childline's website for valuable insights into wellbeing.
- **Art - Colour Theory:** Utilise the resources on Tate's website to understand colour theory through interactive lessons.

Research to carry out:

- **Science:** Explore different types of forces (e.g., gravity, friction) and create a simple experiment to demonstrate one of them.
- **History:** Investigate the key achievements of the Shang Dynasty and present findings in a creative format.
- **Maths:** Create a number line and include examples to illustrate place value with both whole numbers and decimals.
- **Reading and Writing:** Summarise key themes from "The Boy at the Back of the Class" and write a character analysis.
- **PSHE:** Research methods for improving wellbeing and create a personal wellbeing plan.

Key Vocabulary to learn:

- **Science - Forces:** gravity, friction, push, pull, resistance, motion, orbit
- **History - Shang Dynasty:** dynasty, artefact, bronze, culture, fortification, oracle bones, ruler
- **Maths - Number and Place Value:** digit, place value, hundred, thousand
- **PSHE - Wellbeing:** mindfulness, resilience, empathy, self-esteem, emotional health, support
- **Art - Colour Theory:** primary colours, secondary colours, hue, saturation, complementary colours, colour wheel

Important dates to remember:

Date	Event
Wednesday 24th September	National Fitness Day - all children to come to school in their PE Kits
Wednesday 1st - Friday 3rd October	Year 5 Residential to Woodrow and non-residential activities
Tuesday 7th October	Year 5 and 6 STEM Visit to Thorpe Park
Tuesday 21st October	Individual Photos

mathematical concepts through the city's transport systems.