

English: We are Readers and Authors

In English lessons, we will be using the text *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell to inspire our writing. We will be focusing on sentence structure and descriptive language before writing our own adventure stories set in South America. Through the curriculum, we will be applying our author skills in real life contexts.

Weekly spellings: Children will begin exploring the etymology of our language and begin learning morphemes such as *ment-*, *-ful*, *-es*. Look out for updates on our new spelling scheme. Spelling lists will be issued bi-weekly on a Monday, the spellings are from the Year 5 and 6 statutory word list. Please encourage your child to practise their spellings at least three times a week.

Reading: We will be reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell as well as 'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson. We will analyse the text and develop our inference and summarising skills. We will also visit the library weekly.

How can you help at home? Listen to your child read at least five times a week; share a book or a text with your child and talk about actions, characters, reasons for their behaviour. Reading diaries will be checked weekly.

Computing: We are Engineers

3d Modelling: Planning, developing and evaluating 3d models.

Maths: We are Mathematicians

This half term in maths lessons we will be focusing on fractions; multiplying and dividing. We will also be looking at the place value of decimals.

Alongside these lessons we will also be focusing on applying mathematical concepts to real-life problems as well as developing efficiency in arithmetic.

How you can help at home? Encourage your child to use the Times Table Rockstar App to learn their times tables and associated division facts.

Year 5/6
Curriculum Map
Spring 1
Our enquiry:
Where is our twin?



Important dates:

5th January: INSET Day
6th January: Children return to school
15th January: Y6 Secondary Ready Parent Meeting 6-7pm
6th February: Y5 to watch Priory Gym/Dance performance
16th – 20th February: Half Term
23rd February: INSET Day

Homework

Please see page 2 for a reminder of the weekly non-negotiable homework tasks, plus some step ahead homework.

Enquiry: Geographers and Engineers

Where is our twin?

As geographers the children will focus on Dorking's twin towns across Europe to be able to identify a possible twin town in the Americas. Children will learn geographic similarities and differences through the study of human and physical features around the globe. As engineers, children will develop their understanding of designing with the use of tools to create a textile banner to represent the new twin town.

Home Engagement: Visit Dorking to learn more about the history of the town. Look at travel brochures to start exploring different towns.

French: We are Linguists

Seasons and months of the year.

PE: We are Athletes

Outdoor Games: Netball
Indoor PE: Athletics

5/6 Curie – Monday and Wednesday

5/6 Turing – Tuesday and Thursday

5/6 Malala - Monday and Tuesday

Wellbeing: We are Philosophers

We will be exploring human rights through the book *Marcus Rashford*. We will learn about: activism, online safety and racism.

RE: We are Philosophers

JUDAISM: What does it mean to be part of a synagogue community?

Year 5 and 6 Learning at Home: Autumn 2 – Where is our twin?

Weekly Non-Negotiables

Read five times a week with an adult. Ask an adult to sign your reading record every time you read.

Learn your spellings at least three times a week. You will be given new spellings bi-weekly on a Monday.

Learn your times tables and associated facts at least three times a week on Times Table Rock Stars or on paper, get a parent to record this in your homework diary.



Recommended Reads:

Chinese Cinderella, Adeline Yen Mah
Journey to the River Sea, Eva Ibbotson
Any books involving travel!
Atlases
Travel brochures

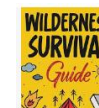
Step Ahead Homework:

Write a fact file or report about the Amazon or about an animal that lives there.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/physical-geography/amazon-facts/>

Step Ahead Homework:

Write a survival guide (including pictures and diagrams) for the Amazon OR an adventure story set in South America.



Step Ahead Homework:

Create a diorama or paint a picture to represent the Amazon rainforest.



Step Ahead Homework:

Visit Dorking Museum to learn more about towns Dorking is twinned with.



Step Ahead Homework:

Visit the virtual Jewish Museum.

<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/visit/whats-here-for-families-2-2/>

Please bring any step ahead homework, which you wish to share with your teacher or class, into school by: **Friday 6th February 2026**