

Year 5 Curriculum Update

2026 Term 1



This update will be sent home to let you know what is happening in the specialist classes this term.

Science and Technologies - Cecilie

In Science and Technologies, Year 5 students are exploring light energy and how it helps us see. They will investigate how light travels including transmission, refraction, dispersion, absorption and reflection and how shadows are formed. Through hands-on experiments with mirrors, prisms, water, lenses and periscopes, students test different materials, classify scenarios and record and interpret their observations.

Italian- Dee

In Italian this term our Year 5s will be exploring the theme of 'il tempo' (time). They will begin by looking at how the Romans profoundly influenced the calendar, and from there move into learning Italian language around this topic, for example, the months of the year, telling the time and using verbs to talk and write about their daily routines. Year 5s will also practise making a social arrangement and appointments in Italian and examine how Italian uses formal and informal language in these contexts.

Visual Arts- Chantel

Year 5 students will begin the year working on horse themed artworks linked to Chinese New Year, exploring how art is an important part of this celebration. They will look at famous horse artworks, including Whistlejacket, for inspiration.

Students will then explore the Element of Art: Shape, including how artists use positive and negative shape in their work. They will take inspiration from artists such as Wassily Kandinsky and Henri Matisse, and reinterpret elements they notice in their pieces to create meaning in their own artworks.

Performing Arts- Audrey

This term, students will explore the use of melodic percussion for composition. Students will use bordoun, ostinato and simple melodies to begin to create their own music, as a class and, when ready, in small groups. They will also be introduced to the concept of improvisation, to enhance their group work.

Year 5 students (along with Year 6 students) will also be invited to join a singing group, which will be performance-oriented. Students who can, independently, play an instrument will have an opportunity to join a lunchtime group which will accompany the singing group when appropriate.

Physical Education- Hollie

This term in Physical Education, students in Year 5 will be practising a range of athletics skills in preparation for the upcoming Athletics Day at the end of term. Activities will focus on developing running, jumping, and throwing skills, while building fitness, technique, and sportsmanship. Students will also be encouraged to set personal goals, support their peers, and demonstrate teamwork and fair play.

Reminders and Dates for the Calendar

3-6 Athletics day- 2nd of April