

September 2026

Dear Parents

Autumn Term 2026 - Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn Term in Year 5

Outlined below are some details about the subjects and work that we will be covering this term. We are looking forward to a creative and challenging year, with a range of visits which will enhance and heighten the children's learning experience.

English

Our main reading inspiration is **'Street Child'** by Berlie Doherty. As well as focusing on key reading skills, we will also use this text to develop drama skills, poetry, letter writing and short historical stories. There will be plenty of opportunity for non-fiction research linked to the Victorians and for the children to gather and present their learning in a range of ways, both written and oral.

We will continue to develop skills in spelling using Spelling Shed, handwriting and grammar and punctuation. This will be addressed through regular fluency sessions. One of our main focuses this term is to improve the quality of the vocabulary children use in their written work and we will explore the use of adventurous language in the texts we cover.

Reading

We have an extensive range of books for the children to read in the class library and the school library where they can choose their own book. We encourage them to choose and read from a range of different genres. They should be reading independently at home for at **least 20 minutes per day**. The children will be encouraged to choose and read a range of different genres. In addition, we will be reading to the class regularly from a chosen book.

Maths

In maths this term, we will cover place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division and fractions. Children will explore various challenges that encourage them to apply a range of skills to solve problems across different contexts. They will complete daily problem-solving activities and have the opportunity to share ideas and discuss strategies used and any misconceptions.

Times tables facts **up to 12 x 12** are invaluable and through using the Times Table Rockstars APP the children will develop their knowledge of the corresponding division facts. We will continue with regular fluency and a times table test on a Friday to ensure key skills are practised.

Science

This term we will become space explorers as we learn about the Earth and other celestial bodies in our solar system. We will investigate each planet—from Mercury to Neptune—and discover how scientific understanding of Earth's movement and position has evolved over time. We will also deepen our knowledge of the Moon, time zones, as well as day and night! After half term, the focus will shift to forces. Children will explore gravity and its effect on unsupported objects, examine how air resistance, water resistance and friction affect movement and learn how mechanisms like levers, pulleys, and gears can make work easier by increasing the effect of a force.

Cross-curricular topic: Victorians

We will be covering different aspects of the curriculum through this topic.

History

What life was like in the Victorian times; the impact of Victorian times; Industrialisation, famous Victorians; Queen Victoria; Florence Nightingale; a Victorian School Day (more details to follow).

Visits

Tour of St Helier with Jersey Heritage focussing on the Victorian features and a visit to the Merchant's House at Jersey Museum (more details to follow).

Art and DT

Creating work inspired by William Morris using acrylic paint, pen and ink. In addition to this, the children will create a clay tile and practise colour mixing skills.

PSHE/Rights Respecting Schools

We will begin by discussing children's rights and linking them to our class to agree on a whole Class Charter. In addition, we will be using the whole school mindful approach called 'Jigsaw'. This will initially include sessions on 'Being me in my world' and 'Celebrating Differences'.

RE

We will be following the whole school scheme called 'Discovery RE' and learning about Sikhism and aspects of the Christmas story this term.

Music

The children will continue to sing a selection of songs linked to class activities and topics and term events. The children will play tuned and untuned percussion instruments to accompany their songs. We will continue to learn the recorder, start to learn to play the ukulele and improve our reading of notation and rhythms. After half term, we will begin rehearsal for the Key Stage 2 Carol Service.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday. Spelling homework on Ed Shed will be set on a Monday and the spellings will be tested at the end of the week, on Friday. We do not have a homework diary in Year 5, so the homework for the week will be posted on Seesaw so that you are aware of what children have been asked to complete.

Weekly homework will usually consist of:

- Reading every day for at least 20 minutes.
- Times tables practice on all table facts in preparation for a test every Friday.
- Use of Spelling Shed to learn weekly spellings set. (Monday to Friday)
- One additional activity. (Friday to Friday)

Many of the additional homework tasks will be set on Seesaw or Century Tech (More details of how to log onto and use Century Tech will follow). In addition to this, we may at times ask the children to complete some homework based on research linked to the topic or science learning.

We are looking forward to teaching such a full curriculum with many exciting learning opportunities!

Class Parent Rep

We also require a class parent rep for each class and would appreciate it if you could email us if you are willing to take on the role.

Please feel free to email us with any queries or should you wish to speak with us directly, please get in touch so that we can arrange an appointment.

Kind regards

Mr Paul
j.paul@jcp.sch.je

Mrs G Killick
g.killick@jcp.sch.je

Mrs Pateman (KS2 Lead)
a.pateman@jcp.sch.je