

Meet the Teacher

Welcome to Year 5!

September 2025



Moving up into Year 5 we are getting steadily closer to the end of your child's time in primary school (how terrifying!). We continue to expect the very best from each of your children, both in the classroom and out, where they must continue to be excellent role models.

In Year 5 we will be asking the children to take more responsibility for their learning, any kit needed (PE or books) and also their homework. Children will be expected to remember when to have PE kits, when homework is due, when to bring in their ukulele and when other items might be required to be brought in from home. Please try to encourage them to check before they leave the house each morning.

Homework & Reading

We aim to send **Homework out on Wednesdays, due for the following Monday and Spellings will go out on a Wednesday for a test the following Monday. Occasionally we will set project homework, intended to be completed over a number of weeks. The emphasis is on them to be independent and take the lead but for their first project we expect them to need some extra support. When a project is set, we will be discussing them on a weekly basis to overcome any issues they have.**

As well as their homework tasks, pupils will be expected to read five times a week for 20 minutes. We do recognise that a number of pupils have after school clubs and activities to attend and that this may impact reading time. Pupils may choose, therefore, to read for a longer period of time on another day. Pupils will bring home a Reading Journal each night and, once they have read, they need to mark in the date and answer a question related to one of the assessment focuses at the back of the book. We will be going through this task with your children over the next few weeks so they should be able to complete these independently. We also know that lots of children read right before bed and so are less keen to fill in the reading record right there and then, so we are more than happy for them to fill it in the following morning either before coming to school or just after arrival as part of their Early Work.

As part of their weekly homework, we also encourage your children to login to Times Tables Rockstars, an online platform we use to help support your child with their times tables skills. They should have a login in their homework folder by the end of the week and can use many internet-connected devices to play. Please do get in touch if you think this might be difficult to accommodate in your home.

PE & Swimming

The current plan is to have **PE lessons** on **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays**, however this is subject to change. We will also be attempting to get your children out for run on the days when we don't do PE so please try and make sure trainers are in school each day. We know that having trainers for home and then another pair for school can be a challenge for many households so feel free to decide with your child whether their PE kit lives in school for the week or goes back and forth each day.

We will also be continuing to provide swimming lessons for some of the children in the class that may benefit from a little more instruction. These sessions will likely occur in the Spring term and you will be contacted by the school office if this affects your child.

Trips & Events

As a school we have been putting a lot of thought into what trips we offer with special consideration being given to costs during these challenging times. In Year 5 we always have the opportunity to take part in *Young Voices* which is a fantastic event that involves the Year 5 and 6 children travelling to the O2 Arena in London and singing with children from lots of different schools in a brilliant collaborative concert. This year we are planning to attend on **Friday 23rd January 2026** with costs kept as low as possible. While there are many optional additional costs such as Young Voices t-shirts and torches, children can wear plain white t-shirts instead (and you'll undoubtedly see me in the 'slightly-out-of-date' 2018 t-shirt!).

We will have a letter coming out soon asking for permission to take your children to the Earth Trust to learn about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. It should be a fun trip where we learn about Invaders and Settlers and get the chance to try out some craft techniques from the time.

Next, we would also love to take your children on a *residential trip* this year. While previous years have had a simple sleepover in school, we think the benefits of a full night away with activities on either side offsite is really important and helps to set your child up for a longer residential in Year 6. It is currently planned for some time within May, though no dates are formally in place yet. As soon as we have more information to share we will. We're fully aware that costs for everything continue to be a challenge for many of us, so please do get in touch if you are worried or concerned about being able to give these opportunities to your children. We're here to help.

Finally, we will have the opportunity in Year 5 to take part in *Bikeability* the week of the **13th October**. It is a two day training programme that teaches your children how to ride their bikes safely on the roads. They will bring their bike to school for two days and take part in a variety of activities, first on the playground then progressing onto the roads around Woodcote. It is open to any child that is competent on a bike and you feel is ready to take part and learn. Look out for information coming out soon.

Do get in touch if you have any questions about Year 5 (either curriculum, organisation or anything else). You can always catch one of us at the start / end of the day or drop an email via the office that will quickly make its way to us.

Cheers!

Mr Langley, Mrs Martin & Mrs Jones
Maple Class

Monday	Homework due Spelling Test
Tuesday	Swimming (in the Spring Term)
Wednesday	PE Homework and Spellings set
Thursday	PE
Friday	Ukulele