Southwold Primary School

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2 (2026)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to thank you for all your support with your child's learning during their first half term. It has been great to see so many parents joining us for events across Autumn 1, such as coffee mornings, Meet the Teacher and Bring a Significant Male to school. We are grateful for the time taken to spend time with your children in their classes.

Children have the opportunity to change their reading books regularly; in order for pupils to make good reading progress, we ask that they read for 15 minutes at home each day and record in their home school diaries.

Should you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's progress, please feel free to get in touch. We are available to talk after school on most days.

Information about what your child will learn this half term is on the reverse page.

We hope you have a fun and restful half term break.

Best wishes,

Year 5 Team

Dates for your diary

Key dates including class assemblies, enrichment days / events and coffee mornings can be found on our school website calendar or on our parent dates letter sent out at the beginning of every half term.

Trips take place each half term and are planned to support the half termly learning. A separate letter is sent to inform you of details for upcoming class trips. These are also added to the school's website calendar.

PE

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on their timetabled PE days. It is advised that your child keeps their kit in school throughout the week in case of any timetable changes. Children must have a full PE kit (a white t-shirt, black shorts / jogging bottoms, and plimsolls) to ensure personal hygiene and safety.

PE Days:

- Mallard Class - Wednesday
- Osprey Class - Friday

Homework

Children in Year 5 should spend a set time each day completing homework to ensure good routine. This should include:

- Completing the weekly literacy and numeracy tasks which will be set on Thursday and is to be returned the following Monday.
- Reading their home reading book for 15 minutes each evening (please sign the diary to show this has been completed).
- Learning their times tables to 12 x 12.
- Learning their weekly spellings which will be set on Thursday and tested on the following Wednesday.
- Accessing the home learning sites, Rockstars and Mathletics.

Literacy

As writers we will be reading the novel Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce, writing our own stories based on what we have read using an increasing range of vocabulary for effect. We will also use our scientific knowledge to write explanation texts and creating reports.

Maths

As mathematicians, we will be developing our knowledge of number, focusing on decimals. We will be improving our written and mental methods for multiplication and division, and consolidating our knowledge of the multiplication tables.

Science

As scientists, we will be learning about the human body. We will explore the process of aging and the causes for it. We will be looking at gestation periods and comparing those of other animals with their life expectancies.



Recommended Reads

- The Girl Who Thought Her Mother Was a Mermaid by Tania Unsworth.
- Ella on the Outside by Cath Howe.



RE & PSHCE

RE: What does it mean to live as a Buddhist?
PSHCE: Staying Safe.

Computing

We will be exploring the uses and application of data entry using Microsoft Excel.

Art and Design Technology

In DT, we will be designing and making Viking Boats. We will be thinking about how best to make the boat buoyant, waterproof and watertight. We will think about how to attach detail and design and how to support the oars, whilst allowing for movement.

Humanities

In humanities we will be looking at how leisure and entertainment have changed over the 20th Century. We will be exploring what factors lead to these changes and the impact they had on people's lives.

Physical Education (PE)

As physical learners, we will be mastering the skills of basketball. We will be building up our skills set, focusing on dribbling, passing and shooting. We will bring all these together to play a competitive game of basket ball towards the end of the half term.

