

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER

February 2026



This half-term has been packed with exciting and enriching learning experiences. A highlight was our trip to the local mosque, where pupils deepened their understanding of different faiths and communities. They learned about key features of the mosque, asked thoughtful questions, and reflected on the importance of respect and shared values, supporting our work in RE and personal development.

In the classroom, our science learning focused on forces, where pupils investigated pushes, pulls, gravity, and friction through practical experiments and hands-on activities. In history, we delved into the world of the Ancient Greeks, using artefacts to support our understanding of daily life, culture, and achievements. Handling replica objects helped pupils ask questions, make connections, and develop a deeper appreciation of this fascinating civilisation.

We have also been working hard to improve our writing skills through imaginative storytelling. Pupils wrote exciting stories about an explorer's adventures in the jungle, focusing on description, action, and building suspense. Later in the half-term, they wrote the ending to a story where they needed to show empathy, thinking carefully about the character's feelings and experiences to engage the reader.

Overall, it has been a busy and rewarding half-term, and we are very proud of the enthusiasm, curiosity, and progress the children have shown across all areas of their learning.

The Year 5 team.

This half-term, Year 5 have enjoyed:

- ★ Trips to the mosque and the theatre
- ★ Finding out about forces in Science
- ★ Learning about the lives of Athenians

NEXT HALF-TERM

Next half-term promises to be an exciting and inspiring one as our learning takes us beyond Earth and into space. In science, pupils will be exploring the solar system, learning about planets, stars, and space exploration. This learning will be brought to life through our overnight stay at Winchester Science Museum, where pupils will be able to explore the exhibits freely and even sleep amongst their favourites. We are all extremely excited about this unforgettable opportunity, which will deepen understanding and spark curiosity about the universe.

In geography, we will be turning our attention to the world's oceans and their vital importance to life on Earth. Pupils will learn about how oceans help regulate climate, support diverse ecosystems, and provide resources for humans. We will also explore the impact of human activity on our oceans, including pollution and climate change, encouraging pupils to think carefully about responsibility and sustainability. Our learning will include finding out about the Great Barrier Reef. Pupils will study its location, unique features, and why it is one of the most important natural wonders on our planet. We will discuss the threats it faces and the steps being taken to protect it, helping pupils develop a deeper understanding of why this incredible ecosystem matters and how we can all play a part in looking after our oceans.

In PSHE, pupils will be learning about the changes that take place during puberty, including both physical and emotional changes. Lessons will be taught in a sensitive and age-appropriate way, giving pupils the opportunity to ask questions, build understanding, and develop confidence about the changes they may experience as they grow.

Overall, next half-term is set to be an engaging and thought-provoking one, and we look forward to supporting the children as they continue to learn, grow, and develop across all areas of the curriculum.

P.E. LESSONS NEXT HALF TERM:

BEECH: TUESDAY (PE) AND FRIDAY (PE)

CEDAR: MONDAY (PE) AND FRIDAY (SWIMMING)

ROWAN: MONDAY (SWIMMING) , WEDNESDAY (PE)



THIS HALF-TERM

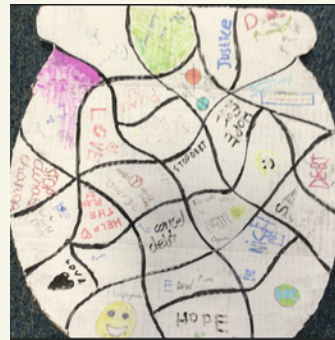
COOKERY

Year 5 had a great time creating, tasting and evaluating a wholesome spaghetti bolognese.



GLOBAL NEIGHBOURS DAY

The children spent time finding out about the lives of our global neighbours and reflecting on their wishes for them.



ANCIENT GREEKS

Would you have preferred to live in ancient Athens or Sparta and why?

If you were a Greek god, what would you be?

Feature	Athens	Sparta
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa • On the slope of Mount Lycabettus • Cities inside Athens were built around a fortress • Outside the city was farmland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built on the banks of the river • Laconia • The city was surrounded by mountains
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have democracy • Only the men who completely completed their military training can vote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Kings • A council of elders • They were an oligarchy
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valued education • Boys learnt to read, do maths, play an instrument and use weapons • All boys have to go to military school from 18 to 20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys learnt to fight, survive and learn to read • Girls learnt to read and trained in athletics so they will produce good baby boys
Warfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very strong navy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very strong army
Boys and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys go to school from the age of 7 • Girls stay at home and learnt how to be a mother and were married at age 14 to an older boy/man 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys went to military school from the age of 7 • When boys are babies they are taken to a place to see if they are a good warrior and if they won't be a good warrior they leave the baby on a mountain to die • Girls boxed and wrestled • Girls married at the age 18

Photos:

Symbols:

- Smiley face 😊
- dice 🎲
- pack of cards 🃏

Powers:

- She can turn boring activities/chores into fun
- creates magical games

Personality:

- happy
- competitive
- positive
- funny

Family:

- Her Dad is the God of strength
- Her twin Brother is the God of fire and anger
- Her Mum is the Goddess of peace

I would've liked to have lived in Sparta because as a girl I would've been taught how to box, wrestle, read and do athletics and because the boys would've been taught less.

KEY DATES NEXT HALF TERM:



Mon 23rd: School opens at 8:30am.

Wed 25th: Music workshop.

Thu 26th : Music workshop. Parents are invited to watch our music performance at 14:30.
PTA "The Little Recyclers" Collection, 08:30 - 09:00. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Fri 27th : Beech class assembly
Headteacher for the Day - details to be confirmed.



Wed 4th: Changes during puberty

Thu 5th: World Book Day

Fri 6th : Rowan Class assembly
PTA Bingo and Biryani evening, the Horsell Village Hall

Fri 13th: Cedar Class assembly

Thu 19th / Fri 20th : Overnight trip to Winchester Science Museum

Week beginning 23rd : Parents' consultations

Fri 27th: Last day of term, school finishes at 13:30.