
Spring 1 Newsletter 2026

Welcome to Year 5 and the Spring Term.

Firstly, we'd like to wish you all a very Happy and healthy New Year! Hopefully you all had a lovely Christmas break. It is a pleasure to have the children back and we just wanted to update you on a few things you may need to know this term.

Reading – Reading for pleasure and the enjoyment of a range of texts is the key to reading success. Reading any story to your child will be of huge benefit to them. Any books, magazines or newspapers they enjoy will help to engage them and ignite their love of books and reading. So, snuggle up and get reading together. We will be building on and developing a range of reading skills in Year 5 including: reading fluently and with expression, using inference and deduction to answer questions about a text and choosing appropriate books that interest them.

Please complete their reading record once you've heard them read or read to them. We would like them to read 4 times a week where possible. Children who achieve this will get a stamp in their reading record. They will also receive a raffle ticket to go into a weekly draw to win a book from our vending machine.

PE - Our PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will always try to go out even in cold and damp weather so children will need appropriate clothing every week! It is important that children with pierced ears can **remove their own earrings** and those with **long hair have this tied up**.

Homework - Children will be set online homework each Monday on Seesaw. This will usually consist of one maths and one grammar activity alongside practising on Spelling Shed and TTRS. They will have a **week** to complete these tasks. If your child has any problems accessing the homework please contact their class teacher.

Contact Details:

Miss Wilson – Rowan Class - e.wilson@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk

Miss Gould – Willow Class – l.gould@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 28th January – INSET

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd February – Fire Safety Workshops

Tuesday 3rd & Thursday 5th February – Parents' Evening

Thursday 12th February – Science with Dr M.

16th – 20th February - Half Term

Wednesday 25th March – Viking Workshop

Friday 4th April - Spring Term Finishes at Midday

Reminders

Please bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please make sure your child has got everything they need in their pencil case – a black handwriting pen (not a biro), a pencil, a rubber, a pencil sharpener and a glue stick.



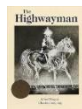
Geography

This half term we focus on our World. We will look at continents, oceans the lines of longitude and latitude and the hemispheres. We will also compare the Arctic and Antarctic.



English

In English, we are reading the book *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* by Louis Sachar. We will be writing a letter of advice and focusing on using modal verbs and adverbs of possibility. We will then be looking at the narrative poem *The Highway Man* by Alfred Noyes.



PE



Gymnastics – the children will be able to create a gymnastic sequence that include 6 separate elements which includes taking weight onto their hands, partner balances, individual balances, a roll and a jump.

Hockey – the children will develop their understanding of hockey by focussing on rules of the game, shooting, defending and working as a team.

Computing

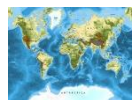
In computing, the children are looking at coding with a programme called Crumble. They will be taught to input data to create an output.

They will be building a robot to test these skills.



This Half Term our topics are:

Marvellous Materials



and



Our Wonderful World

PSHE



This half term is all about keeping safe. We will be talking about how to spot bullying, discussing social media, thinking about friendships and risk taking. We will look at how to develop independence and making informed decisions.

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RE



RE this half term is all about Christianity. We will explore the question of how the church began and where it is now. The children will learn about some of the key Christian beliefs and study Pentecost. They will look at how the church is used for various services and ceremonies to show membership of a Christian community and explore how the church has spread across the world.

DT

As part of our computing unit we will be designing and making a moving robot. The children will construct their designs and incorporate programming, using Crumble, to make their robot move. They will then evaluate their designs.



Science

In Science, we are learning all about materials and their properties. We will focus on electrical and thermal conductors and insulators, absorbency, dissolving and changing materials.



Maths



In maths this half term we are building on our prior knowledge of fractions. We will use our understanding of our times tables to find equivalent fractions so that we can order and compare fractions. We will then move on to multiplying fractions as well as finding fractions of an amount. We will also develop the strategies that we use to multiply and divide. This will involve long multiplication and dividing up to 4-digit numbers by a 1-digit number.

Music



We are focussing on traditional music from South and West Africa. The children will be able to sing traditional songs and play accompanying chords on tuned percussion. We will also learn about syncopation and polyrhythms.



Spanish

In Spanish we are building on our prior knowledge and learning how to talk about the weather.

