

# Autumn Term in Year 5

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you. Deuteronomy 31:6

Welcome back! We hope you have had a restful and relaxing summer break, ready for a busy school year! We have had a wonderful start to our school term; all the children have impressed us with their enthusiasm and eagerness to get back to learning. We are beginning to build relationships and set our expectations ready for a successful year.

If you would like to see the wonderful work we do each week, please do visit our class pages (Tolerance - 5A and Diversity - 5S) on the school website <https://www.stthomasacademy.co.uk/class-pages-1/>. Following @StThomasBoston on Twitter will also keep you up to date with all the latest school information.



## Race to Space

*What are the most significant space achievements to date?*



Our learning in the Autumn term centres around space. In History, we go back in time to discover the origins of the Cold War in order to understand the significance of the moon landings in 1969. Our Science focus will begin with Forces, to better understand the unseen role these play in the universe, then move on to the solar system, learning about our own as well as the other planets. As part of this, we will ask children to be creative in their homework after half term, you might like to start thinking about this now! Pupils will have the option of making a model of the solar system to show their understanding, or choosing a space related idea each week from the list in their homework books. We want to encourage the children to be creative, so there are options for making things (shoebox solar systems are always popular!) as well as putting together a presentation about their favourite aspect of space. As we know these kinds of projects don't suit everyone, there are options for drawing and writing challenges as well.

Homework is important and we expect everyone to complete it and hand it in on time. It helps

consolidate learning and build up your child's confidence. Homework will be set every **Friday** and should be completed and handed in by **Wednesday**. Work sent home will help to consolidate learning done in school, so pupils should be able to complete it with minimal support. If you have any concerns about this, please see your child's class teacher. We will be using MathShed too so remember to encourage your child to login regularly and complete the activities.

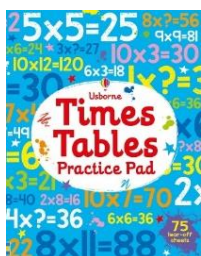
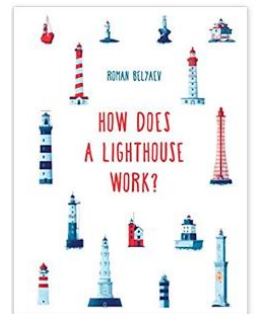
**Spellings** will be given out on **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**. We advise children use a Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check approach as set out on the spelling sheet. Other ways to help children learn include chanting the letters, finding words within words, and circling the letter combinations they find tricky. This makes the learning more exciting and memorable. Pupils will have studied the words sent home in school and have some hints and tips to share with you!



**Reading** at home is vital for children, as this helps them practise the skills they learn in school. Research shows children who read for 20 minutes a day, see or hear 1.8 million words per year – those who don't are missing this number of words! Please sign your child's Reading Record whenever they read as this helps us monitor their aptitude and progress. We know life can be hectic so we encourage pupils to make notes of pages read if they read to themselves too. Please encourage them to read daily and ask them questions about what they have read. It is important to check that children can answer questions and not just say the words in their books – if they are unable to answer, it shows they are not taking in the information.

In Year 5 we expect the children to change their books independently. As soon as they have finished a book, it can be changed. The school reading books (and Reading Records) are expected to be in school daily. Children will also bring home a reading for pleasure book, we know they will love to share these with you too!

Our class book this term is *How Does a Lighthouse Work?* by Roman Belyaev, a fascinating and beautifully illustrated non-fiction book, full of facts and answers to questions about lighthouses.



**Times tables** In Year Five, children are expected to already know ALL of their times tables. Please help your child by practising with them (chant, practise online games like Hit the Button, make them answer ten questions before they are allowed on their tablets...). If they do know them, brilliant – the next step is how quickly they can recall them so practise speed next along with the associated division facts.

**PE KIT** must be in school daily- timetabled lessons are as below, but we may take the opportunity to get active at any time!



**5 - PE every Thursday (football) and Tuesday (5S) and Friday (5A) (fitness). Any jewellery must be removed, including earrings, and long hair must be tied back please.**

Many parents have asked how they can help their children learn at home, so here are some websites that will provide practise in key skills. A great way of supporting your child's learning (and a fun one) is to play the online games with them.

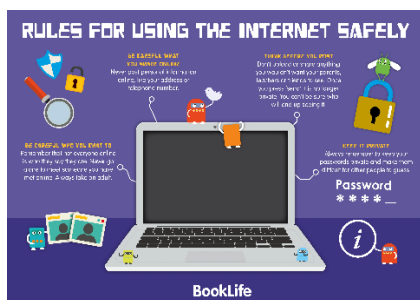
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/> Age appropriate, subject specific activities, revision activities, games, worksheets, and experiments.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16> A great site for Maths games, perfect for revision.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> Hit the Button is a fun way of practising times tables, please encourage your children to use this!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of the Year 5 team. Mrs Smith is the class teacher for Tolerance Class and Mr Slaughter is class teacher for Diversity Class, along with Miss Stanley and Miss Kaye assisting.

We all look forward to interacting with you over the year, as we work together to bring out your child's potential. We love to hear about achievements outside of school so please do encourage your child to bring in certificates, trophies and other recognition of out of school activities to share with us.



### Online Safety

Pupils have already impressed us with their extensive knowledge of how to keep themselves safe online. Please do support them by encouraging them to only play games that are age appropriate for them- the PEGI ratings support you to do this.

### Reading for Enjoyment

Every child will be encouraged to choose a book for reading for pleasure to share with family at home. These will be changed weekly, although we know some texts may be longer and need to be kept for longer than a week. As you all know, Mrs Smith loves to read so here are some suggestions for other books and authors to try!



# Curriculum Overview - Autumn Term

## Term 1 in Year 5

**Art**  
We will explore the art form of sculpture, through the work of artist Edgar Degas. We will create our own sculptures using space as our inspiration.  
How can sculpture tell a story?

**English Skills**  
This term will focus on writing to inform. Through understanding the genres of descriptions and biography we will develop appropriate styles of writing. This will include developing a deeper understanding of sentence structure and selecting vocabulary for effect.

**Science**  
We begin with Forces in Term1, exploring the effects of friction and gravity, gears and pulleys, then move to focusing on the solar system for Term2. We will learn all about the Earth, moon and other planets and how gravity affects them.  
How do we know forces exist when we cannot see them?

**Computing**  
We focus on e-safety in Term 1, exploring various forms of online communication, including how to recognise and manage our online reputation.  
How do we create an online representation?  
How can we work together online?

**History**  
Race to Space will enable us to work as historians to identify key events on a timeline and research them. Looking at a range of sources, we will be able to evaluate the reliability and relevance of evidence. This will enable us to decide whether the moon landings really did happen!  
What are the most significant space achievements to date?

**P.E.**  
Children will be working together to develop team games, the first one being Football. Our other PE lesson will focus on fitness, beginning with a baseline assessment which the children will be challenged to beat at the end of term, showing their progress!  
Can you be fit but not healthy?  
Is a football player the only role you can aspire to be?

**Mathematics**  
In mathematics, we will secure our understanding of place value (including reading and writing numbers to one million) before we move on to advancing our application of the four operations. These will be mastered in different contexts and within reasoning questions.

**R.E**  
This term we focus on how the beliefs and practises of Hindus affect the way they live their lives. We will explore important concepts of the religion such as dharma and karma.  
Does Dharma influence the way Hindu's behave?

**Music**  
In music, the children will be developing their listening and appraising skills. They will listen to several pieces of music, identifying the instruments, and discussing pitch, dynamics and tempo.  
How does the texture of music affect our likes and dislikes?

**PSHE**  
We explore relationships and how to manage these, especially in the context of peer pressure, as well as strategies to positively resolve disputes and reconcile differences in friendships. Knowing when to ask for help is also addressed.  
Are friendships always positive?

**French**  
We learn vocabulary in order to be able to discuss and write about members of our families in French, building up to creating our own family tree.  
Qui est dans votre arbre généalogique?

