

CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 5 - Spring 2



Ted
Wragg
TRUST

Exwick Heights Primary School

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Monday 24th February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 5 pupils,

In **English**, we will be starting off the term by writing a non-chronological report about a famous person of our choice. Prior to this, we will explore the key features needed. We will also be completing a visual literacy unit focused on 'The Alchemist's Letter.' Each class will explore concepts such as symbolism and pathetic fallacy, and how these devices inform authors' choices when writing. We will then create our own informal letters, replying to the Alchemist in the voice of either his son or his mysterious machine.



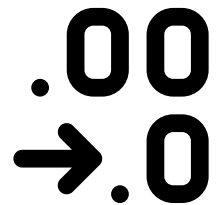
Supporting learning at home: *You can watch the video here: <https://vimeo.com/125527643>*



This half term's weekly **reading** themes include topics such as Rainforests and Space. Our new daily class reader is 'The House on The Edge' by Alex Cotter, a children's thriller which will consolidate our work on suspense narratives from earlier in the year.

Supporting learning at home: *Please keep reading aloud (both to and with) your child, encouraging them to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes on books they've completed.*

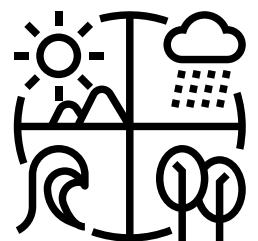
Maths learning this half term will include identifying the value of numbers with up to 3 decimal places, as well as using mental and written methods to solve decimal calculations. We will also build on learning from Year 4 around area and perimeter, including of composite rectilinear shapes. **Supporting learning at home:** *Please encourage your child to revise Maths topics at home using Sumdog, to help continue to build links between new and prior learning.*



Building on our learning about forces last half term, we will be exploring Earth and Space in **Science**. We will learn about ancient and modern theories of our solar system, conduct secondary research into planets and conduct an observation over time into the length of shadows during the day. Excitingly, we also have a visit from the Space Dome, so that we can experience the wonders of our galaxy (almost!) firsthand!

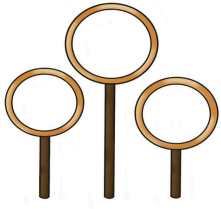
Linking with our class book, our **Geography** learning will explore the topic of Biomes. Using our topic booklets, we will study a range of different biomes, including the rainforest, tundra and savanna. We will look closely at climate, weather and the different fauna and flora that have adapted to survive in certain conditions, ready to create final presentations summarising our learning.

Supporting learning at home: *Use Google Earth together to zoom into different biomes.*



REACH THE HEIGHTS

We are looking forward to one of our favourite topics in **DT** - creating pop-up books! Each child will create their own 3D pop-up book, based on their own story or a familiar fairy tale. We will learn how to use different mechanisms, such as sliders and pivots, to help make our book as engaging as possible. When complete, we will share our creations with our Year 2 buddy classes.

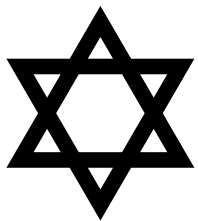


For **outdoor PE**, our sporting superstars will learn the rules of Quidditch, developing new skills and practising these for the first time! For **indoor PE**, the children will develop their knowledge of defensive and attacking tactics in football. **Supporting your child at home:** *Encourage lots of physical activity - perhaps through joining a club, walking all or part of the journey to and from school or simply through regular family walks!*

In **PSHE** this half term, each year group explores the theme of **'Healthy Me.'** In Year 5, we will learn about the effects of smoking/vaping, alcohol and issues raised by photo editing. We will also have a lesson learning emergency first aid. You could support your child by learning basic first-aid skills together at home.

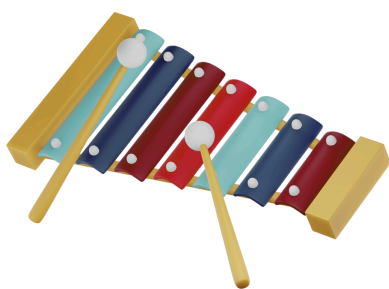
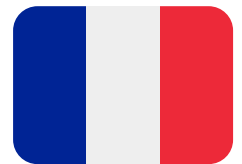


Supporting learning at home: *Ask your children about their learning in this area - they will impress you with how much they know!*



In **RE**, the key question this half term is **'Why is the Torah important to Jews?'** We will explore the different denominations of Judaism and how the Torah is interpreted, as well as Kosher food rules. We hope to visit Exeter Synagogue, where the children will have the opportunity to ask the Rabbis any questions they would like to discover about the history of Judaism in Exeter.

Our **French** learning this half term is around the topic of a school trip. We will learn a variety of words, phrases and sentences around activities we could complete on a school trip. We will enjoy French question and answer sessions, where we can discuss this with each other, as well as reading a French story using the vocabulary we have learnt throughout the topic.



In **Music**, we will be learning about South and West African songs. Particularly, Shosholoza, which was sung by mining tribes in South Africa. We will sing traditional African songs unaccompanied and learn to play them on glockenspiels. We will play call and response rhythms using percussion instruments and also create an eight-beat break to play within a performance.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. F. Lloyd-Seetim
Attenborough

Miss M. Hansed
Goodall

Miss R. Gabb
Nakate