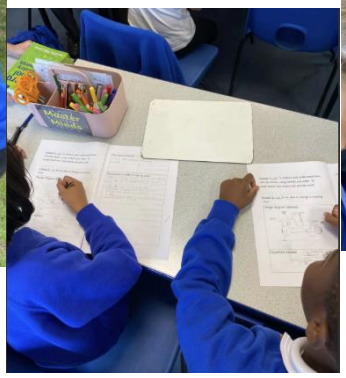
Year 5 Newsletter
Autumn 2026 – Half Term 2

Welcome back for the final term in Autumn. Autumn 1 was filled with a range of highlights including: Rowling Class' first swimming lesson, Black History Month, Harvest Assembly, and some exceptional writing relating to space.

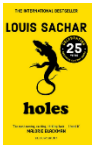


We are so excited for our next topic in Autumn, which will be 'Holes'. Our reading and writing will be focused around the book 'Holes' and we will finish the topic by watching the film.

As usual, with any questions, please ask your child's class teacher on the gate or via our new email address: year5@pr5d.com

Curriculum Overview

Rowling, Gold, Balen



This half term in **English,** all our writing will be based around the book Holes by Louis Sachar. Over the course of the half term, the children will write: a character description, a short narrative by continuing the story in their own way through their predicting skills and finally a balanced argument.

We will be focusing on fractions in **Maths** this term. This will include equivalent fractions, coverting fractions, comparing and ordering fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, which includes mixed numbers.

Our **Science** topic this term is 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. Throughout this topic, we will be exploring life processes of reproductive plants, plant reproduction and life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. Finally, we will make comparisons between two life cycles.

We will be having our first **French** lessons of Year 5. During our lessons, we will be learning how to say what the weather is like, the date and our birthdays using our Year 4 knowledge of months of the year.

In **Art** this term, we will be studying the famous artist, Matisse. We will examining his art work before creating our own group painting of Matisse. After doing this, we will be creating our own collage to replicate his artwork and will share our ideas by doing a gallery walk of our work.

In **PSHE**, children will be following the Jigsaw unit 'Celebrating Differences'. In this unit, children will understand different cultures, racism, the different types of bullying and how we can all celebrate differences.





In **Geography** this half term, we will be learning about Mountains. We will learn what mountains are, how they are formed, locate different mountain ranges and finally make comparisons between a mountain range in the UK and elsewhere.

Value of the Month



November – Forgiveness
December – Peace



During this term we will be exploring the values of forgiveness and peace. These values will be a focus during assemblies as well as in PSHE lessons.

Physical Education

PE and Games in Year 5 continues to take place on the following day this half term:

	Year 5 Rowling	Year 5 Gold	Year 5 Balen
Indoor PE	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
Outdoor PE	-	Friday	Friday
Swimming	Friday	n/a	n/a

Swimming dates are as follows:
Gold- 11th September- 2nd October
Balen- 9h October- 6th November
Rowling- 13th November- 11th December

Following this, children that have not yet achieved their 25m or need some extra practice will be required to go back from January.
Please ensure that your child comes to school in their full kit, including black plimsolls or trainers, on both days. We ask that children do not wear jewellery and have long hair tied back.

Knife Crime Awareness Workshops

On 23rd November, all three classes will take part in a fully funded Knife Crime Awareness Workshop. These age-appropriate sessions are designed to help children understand the risks and consequences of carrying knives, while promoting positive choices and personal safety. During the workshop, pupils will learn about the importance of making safe decisions, recognising peer pressure, understanding the impact of knife crime on individuals and communities, and knowing where to seek help and support if they have concerns. The sessions aim to build confidence, resilience and awareness, helping children stay safe both now and in the future.

School uniform policy

Please can all young ladies in Year 5 remember that make-up and nail varnishes are not permitted in school. Many thanks.





Homework in Year 5.

We have been so impressed with the quality of homework in Year 5 in Autumn 1. Homework will continue to be set on a Monday and will be due to be returned the following Monday. If children would like help with this, we encourage them to come and chat with the class teacher. We strongly encourage access to homework through our Google Classroom platform. We recognise that not all of our children are able to access this and are happy to send home a paper copy on request. Please do get in contact if there are any problems with homework.

Thank you for all your efforts with the reading record books during Autumn 1. A gentle reminder, it is expected that there will be at least three entries per week in the reading record books. If this is not the case, children will be asked to complete some independent reading during a break time.

TTRS



Helping your child at home in Year 5

Please click here for ideas on how to support your child at home

Our reading recommendations

Miss Raval recommends: Luna by Chris Bradford. Luna and her Dad are living on the moon as her Dad is part of a team, which are mining it for precious rocks and minerals. Suddenly, a meteor crashes into it and Luna is devastaningly sepearted from her father. Stranded on the moon, totally alone, with only a limited supply of oxygen, how will Luna get back? I love this book as it is a fantastic adventure book that builds tension making you want to read on whilst feeding

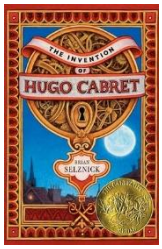


you with scientific information about living on the moon and what it is like to be in space. Fiction and non-fiction combined into one- what's better!

Miss Briscoe recommends: There's a boy in the girl's bathroom by Louis Sachar. This book is a wonderful story that follows a boy who feels disconnected with those around him, always being seen as the 'naughty' child. He has no friends and no one who believes him. This all changes when he meets a new friend and a new teacher in school who **appreciates** him for who he is.

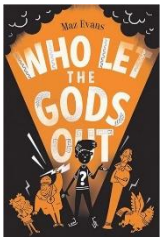


Mrs Pry recommends: The Invention of Hugo Cabaret by Brian Selznick is a beautiful text that shares a wonderful story set in Paris, France of a clock keeper and a thief's story. A mechanical man with a secret is also at the heart of the story. The book captures your attention as it has over 284 pages of pictures alone! But this is certainly not a picture book. Each illustration tells part of the story and really helps to grow your inference skills. Worth a read!



Mr Green recommends: Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans

Who Let the Gods Out is an exciting and funny book from a series of books by Maz Evans. This particular book is about a young boy called Elliot. His mum suffers from dementia, he wants to look after her. He meets a goddess called Virgo. Together they accidentally release the god of death and need to turn to the Greek Gods for help.



Mrs Dobson recommends: The Starlight Rebel by Liselte Auton is a wonderfully warm story about the importance of friendship – even in year 3897. Life is very different for the main character, Astrifer, compared to our own lives. Astrifer lives under a giant dome that protects all life within it. Life is busy, life is neon, her life is determined by the authorities – to work in a sock factory for evermore. Astrifer is destined for greater things – but will she ever believe in herself and can she truly trust those she calls friends?

This is an excellent read. I used every moment to catch up with the story and was sad to have finished the story. The author, Auton, is a new author for me and I will definitely be reading some more of her books in the future.

The story is perfect for Year 5 and 6 readers. It is an action packed, sci-fi fictional text. To read the beginning of the text, follow the link: The Starlight Rebel - Google Books



Up-coming Autumn Term dates for your diary:

Monday 2nd November – INSET
Thursday 5th November – 4.45-6.30pm - Friends of Priory Rise - Fireworks event
Friday 6th November – Diwali celebration – dress up or down
Friday 13th November – Children in Need wear PJs for £1 donation
Monday 16th November – Wear odd socks for anti-bullying
Monday 23rd November - Lion King dress rehearsal at SBE
Tuesday 24th November – Lion King performance at SBE
Wednesday 25th November – Lion King performance at SBE
Tuesday 15th December – Christmas party and dinner

Friday 18th December – End of autumn term