

Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This curriculum newsletter provides you with an overview of the learning your child will undertake over the Spring term

Year 5

Welcome back and Happy New Year! This term is focused on 'Sow, Grow and Farm' with a wide variety of exciting and engaging topics to challenge and intrigue all learners.

Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge: Sow, Grow and Farm

Throughout the Spring term our main learning challenge will be geography based. In the Sow, Grow and Farm project, your child will learn about the features and characteristics of land use in agricultural regions across the world, including a detailed exploration of significant environmental areas. They will develop their understanding of agricultural land used in the UK by studying maps and using a key to identify locations of different types of farming, such as arable, pastoral and mixed farming. They will also find out how the influencing factors of climate, topography and soil determine the types of farming.

The children will:

- Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.
- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle.
- Describe in detail the different types of agricultural land use in the UK.
- Explain how the topography and soil type affect the location of different agricultural regions.
- Use compass points, grid references and scale to interpret maps, including Ordnance Survey maps, with accuracy.
- Describe how soil fertility, drainage and climate affect agricultural land use.
- Describe and explain the location, purpose and use of transport networks across the UK and other parts of the world.

KEY VOCABULARY:

allotment, agriculture, commercial farm, livestock, climate, fertiliser, irrigation, pesticide, arable farming, pastoral farming, rural, urban, stamen, carpel, stigma, style, anther, filament, sepal, ovary, ovule, petal, gradient, topography, nutrient, soil, climate zone, desert, feature, humidity, Mediterranean, polar, rainfall, season, temperate, temperature, tropical

English: Our focus book this term will be 'Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. This is a story of friendship, loyalty and bravery, told in the voice of a young boy struggling to make sense of all that is going on around him. From the seventeenth floor of the tower block where he lives with his Mum, Ade (the narrator) watches as the buildings fall around him. The Bluchers, a strange and deadly kind of plant, are taking over the city, and everyone is being forced to evacuate, but his mother is refusing to leave her room. And so Ade watches alone as the city empties, and the Bluchers creep ever closer. This book will inspire our writing of narratives. This term we will also be writing non-chronological reports and explanation texts.

Maths: In Maths this term, we will return to multiplication and division, revising learning from the Autumn term and introducing formal methods using columns and place value. Building upon the fractions units from Autumn, the children continue to solve problems with fractions and embed the knowledge they have already acquired. They are introduced to decimals and learn their relationship to fractions. Continuing this theme, we will be learning how to find percentages and how they relate to both fractions and decimals. We will also convert fractions, decimals and percentages to deepen children's understanding of the relationship between the three concepts. Later on in the term, we will be investigating perimeter and area and understanding how the two are linked. The final mathematical area of study will be statistics where the children will create their own data sets and further refine their ability to draw graphs and represent and interrogate information.

Other subjects within the wider curriculum:

Science: Human Reproduction and Ageing; Food Chains; Life Cycles

History: In our geography project, the children will learn about the historical campaign, Dig for Victory, from the Second World War.

Religious Education (RE): Holi (Hinduism); Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr (Islam); Passover (Judaism)

Art: Light, Line and Shadow; Nature's Art

PE: Dance; Fitness circuits; Netball; Gymnastics

Design and Technology (DT): Eat the Seasons

Computing: In computing, this term, we will learn about how to stay safe online.

PSHE: Healthy Lifestyles; Relationships and Sex Education

Music: Advanced singing, gaining confidence in performance and continuing to explore notation and composition.

French: As well as learning a bit about France, we'll be having fun learning to greet people, introduce ourselves, do some counting, give our age and birthday. More broadly we'll be learning about how languages work and how to make them work for us.

Useful Information

Home Learning: Spellings will be set weekly on a Friday and will be tested the following Wednesday. A homework grid will be sent home with a variety of tasks for the children to complete over the half term. Children are welcome to bring in their work or upload it to the Google classroom. All children should read daily (20 mins minimum) to develop skills and build stamina.

PE kit: Children need shorts, jogging bottoms / leggings, t-shirt, jumper/hoody and suitable footwear. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, so children must be able to remove their own if they are worn. All other jewellery must also be removed.

Uniform

Please ensure your child has the correct school uniform. This is important as when they attend secondary school there are often strict policies regarding uniforms. Now is a good time to get used to this. Information about the school uniform policy is on the website as follows:

- White/pale blue shirt or polo shirt
- Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan
- Grey/black skirt/pinafore dress
- Grey/black trousers/tailored shorts (No leggings)
- Grey/black tights

- PE KIT: Plain dark t-shirt and dark shorts (No football tops) Jogging bottoms and jumper (dark colours if possible)

- Shoes, boots or sandals can be worn, and these should be dark in colour. Plain black trainers are also permitted, although this does not include “high top” trainers.

Behaviour and Safety when walking to and from school

Walking or riding to and from school is one way to encourage such independence. We have had occasions when children have gone to the ‘Teletubby’ park before school and arrived late to lessons. Please ensure you reiterate what you expect your child to do and how you expect them to behave when they are coming to school on their own.

Mobile Phones

Many children in Year 5 have a mobile phone. If it is necessary for your child to bring their own mobile to school it should be dropped off at the main reception in the morning and picked up on the way home after school has finished. Mobile phones are to be switched off during the day.

Behaviour and Safety Online

If your child has a mobile phone or other internet enabled device please be mindful that they are using this device appropriately as we are not able to resolve issues that occur in relation to social media use that happen outside of school hours. There are many apps that allow parents to track their children’s use of the internet to help to keep them safe and happy online. Examples include [Kaspersky Safe Kids Review - EducationalAppStore](#) , [Kidgy - Parental control app Review - EducationalAppStore](#) and many more.

Websites that may be useful

[NSPCC](#) Keeping your child safe, also excellent source of information for children on a range of issues including peer pressure, relationships and keeping themselves safe

[Thinkuknow](#) Keeping safe online for children and young people as well as parents

[Home - BBC Bitesize](#) Support for all subjects including maths and English

[Topmarks](#) Great games like Hit the Button and Bingo for maths practise

[Cambridgeshire Libraries](#) A wealth of books for you to borrow and we are lucky to have a library in Littleport

[KS2 Maths - 65 Enjoyable Quizzes for Children aged 7 to 11](#) Self marking quizzes for maths

[Spellings MENU - Key Stage 2 Literacy](#) Spelling games

[Spelling games, tests and activities](#) Spelling games

Useful websites- for both children and parents

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk> (Keeping your child safe online)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> (Keeping your child safe online)

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk> (Keeping your child safe, also excellent source of information for children on a range of issues including peer pressure, relationships and keeping themselves safe)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> (Support for all subjects including maths and English)

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/> (Support in finding books for your child to read at home)