



St. William of York Catholic Primary School

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Thursday 1st May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the year!

This term, Year 5's topics are Time Travellers and Travelling Traders. Throughout the term, the children will be learning about a range of time periods - issues during these times will inspire our writing. We will explore life in London as a Victorian child, as well as the work of the Suffragettes throughout the country, with particular focus on Rosa May Billinghurst (a suffragette from Lewisham).

The children have continued to enjoy our writing programme, Real World Writers, giving them an understanding of features within different styles of writing and applying them to their own writing. We will continue with this approach as children explore advocacy journalism this term. Do talk to your children about causes or charities you are passionate about.

In Science, we will be exploring reproduction of plants before moving onto looking at reversible and irreversible changes. We will be carrying out lots of exciting scientific experiments and continuing to take a hands-on approach to our Science curriculum.

P.E lessons will continue to be on Monday and Thursday. Please ensure all school uniform and PE kit have been labelled with names. Children must also be able to remove their own earrings, as jewellery is not permitted during PE lessons.

Homework will continue to be set as usual – a blog post on Purple Mash, activities on Mathletics, Hit the Button and TTRS, as well as weekly spellings. We complete a spelling test in class each week so please do ensure you continue to discuss and explore these 10 words throughout the week. As always, all children are expected to read every day and they will have the opportunity to change their reading books and explore our book corner when needed.

We are also very fortunate to continue to learn Brass on a Friday morning. The children have all made huge amounts of progress in just a few weeks, so I look forward to seeing the development over the next term. Please ensure their instruments come to school with them on Thursdays, ready for the lesson first thing on Friday.

The children will continue to be supported daily in class by Miss Murphy. Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any concerns or queries. You may contact me via the school office or send an email directly to vhazelon3.209@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk.

Kind regards,
Mrs Vicky Hazelton

Class Teacher
St William of York

English

We will begin the term by reading Street Child, making links between the Victorian era and the rights and treatment of vulnerable people throughout history. We will use the text to help inform our advocacy journalism writing. We will read Suffragette: Battle for Equality in Guided Reading. In Summer 2, we will move on to read The Cloud Tea Monkeys and hone our narrative writing skills, focusing upon setting-based narratives.

History

Our topic this term is the Time Travellers. We will begin by exploring Victorian and Edwardian London. The children will be learning about changes to Britain and the British Empire during the Victorian era, as well as the injustice and inequality throughout society.

Geography Later in the term, the children will be learning about India. They will focus on the physical characteristics of the country and learn about its inhabitants and their trade links.

Maths

We will continue to explore maths using a mastery approach. Children will learn methods for calculating decimals with up to three decimal places. They will also complete a geometry unit, focusing on the properties of shapes and how to describe positions and directions. Later in the term, Yr 5 will study measurement and learn how to convert between different units of measurement and how to measure volume and capacity. Throughout the term, children will revisit key concepts from the fractions' unit of work for Year 5.



Year 5

Summer 1: Time Travellers

Summer 2: Travelling Traders

Teacher: Vicky Hazelton

Teaching Assistant: Niamh Murphy

Art & DT

Whilst learning about the Victorians, children will develop their drawing skills and produce sketches of Victorian architecture.

Year 5 will be learning to make simple Victorian toys using optical illusions and simple mechanisms.

Science

Properties of Materials & Changing Materials

Children will learn about the reproduction of plants including the scientific names of the male and female parts involved in this process.

Later in the term, children will learn about reversible and irreversible changes, and soluble and insoluble materials. They will carry out experiments to test whether materials that have been heated or cooled can return to their original state.

PE

Year 5 will have PE lessons on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. They will develop their fitness, coordination skills and flexibility by participating in a range of physical games and activities.

Computing

This half term, pupils will be learning to use Google Docs to present and publish their work. They will explore the effects that can be used when manipulating text boxes and images as well as how to imbed images, videos and hyperlinks.

RE

The first RE topic this term is 'Transformation'. This will begin with an exploration of how energy can be transformed and the celebration of Pentecost. Our second topic is 'Freedom and Responsibility'. This focuses on the principles of the Ten Commandments to guide our sense of responsibility within our communities.