

Core Texts

This term, we will explore *Varmints* by Helen Ward, a thought-provoking story about environmental change and the importance of protecting nature. Through its powerful illustrations and themes, we will discuss how progress impacts the world around us.

We will also read *The Matchbox Diary* by Paul Fleischman, a touching tale of a man's life story told through small keepsakes in matchboxes. This book will help us explore themes of memory, storytelling, and immigration.



Recommended Reads

**Who Let the Gods Out
by Maz Evans**

Geography

In this unit, we will explore the Amazon Basin, learning about its geography, climate, and the diverse ecosystems within it. We'll investigate how the rainforest supports both wildlife and human populations, and examine the environmental challenges it faces, such as deforestation and climate change.

Computing

This term, we will create interactive simulators, learning to design models of real-world systems. Students will develop coding and problem-solving skills as they explore how their programming choices affect outcomes.

PSHE

In this unit, students will learn about the justice system, how Parliament functions, and the role of pressure groups in society. They will explore rights and responsibilities, the environmental impact of energy use, and ways to contribute positively to their community.

English

This half term, Year 5 will explore a range of engaging texts to develop their writing skills. **Balanced Arguments:** Using *The Varmints* by Helen Ward, students will analyse themes such as environmental issues and conflict, inspiring them to write balanced arguments that consider multiple perspectives.

Stories from Other Cultures: *The Matchbox Diary* by Paul Fleischman will introduce students to narratives from different cultural backgrounds, helping them craft their own stories that reflect diverse experiences and viewpoints.

Curriculum Web Summer 1



This term, we have lots of fantastic learning opportunities planned. We will be embarking on *Shackleton's Journey*, immersing ourselves in the incredible Antarctic adventure. In History, we'll travel back to Ancient Greece to explore the epic tale of *Odysseus* and the fascinating world of Greek myths and legends. Meanwhile, in Design and Technology, we'll be getting hands-on with a special project—building bird boxes!



Art

As artists, we will experiment with different drawing techniques to create both realistic and abstract representations of rainforest beetles and butterflies. Students will explore texture, shape, and colour, using various media to capture the vibrant and intricate details of these fascinating insects.

MFL

In this unit, students will learn key facts about the Olympics and practice saying them in French.

Maths

Unit 20 – place value
Unit 21 - measurement and statistics
Unit 22 – geometry
Unit 23 – addition and subtraction
Unit 24 – multiplication

Science

As scientists this half term, Year 5 will focus on **Living Things and Their Habitats**. They will learn how to classify living organisms into groups based on their characteristics, including mammals, birds, insects, and amphibians. Additionally, students will explore how plants and animals adapt to their habitats to survive, from forests to oceans. By engaging in hands-on activities and discussions, they'll gain a deeper understanding of the relationships between living organisms and their environments. Parents can support by encouraging outdoor exploration and discussing the plants and animals found in their local area.

R.E

As theologians, we will explore how people decide what to believe and how faith shapes their lives.

P.E

In **orienteering**, students will develop map-reading and navigation skills, working in teams to find locations and solve challenges. In athletics, they will focus on running, jumping, and throwing, building fitness and improving technique in track and field events.

Curriculum Enrichment:

As our enrichment for this term, we are visiting the World Museum in Liverpool to take part in a Greek workshop and explore the exhibitions within the museum.