



Y5 Fir and Maple Class

Spring



R.E

Community

We will be learning about how the experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith.

Eucharist

We will be exploring being thoughtful for life, for people and gifts, is a vital part of our relationships with one another. When praise and appreciation are experienced, we are enabled to relate on a deeper level.

Lent - Giving:

Life, especially family life, or life in school, is full of opportunities for self-giving. It is the season when Christians practise both giving and giving-up, to identify with the complete self-offering of Jesus which is remembered in the liturgy of Holy Week and the Easter Triduum.

Art

Investigating self-portraits by a range of artists, children use photographs of themselves as a starting point for developing their own unique self-portraits in mixed-media.

P.E

PE will be on Fridays. We are beginning with Gymnastics, focussing on physical symmetrical and asymmetrical balances, rotation jumps, straight rolls, forward and backward roll, cartwheel, bridge and shoulder stands. The children will be creating and performing sequences using apparatus and working on their strength and balance.

Swimming

Swimming lessons will be on Tuesdays. Please ensure your child brings a swimming costume/trunks, a cap and goggles

Geography

Our topic this term is North America. We will be: locating it on a world map and exploring the landscape; identifying countries within North America and states within the USA; comparing the landscapes of different US states and comparing New York State and New York City to where we live

Music

Our topic is Rock and Roll and we will be singing as part of an ensemble, singing in a two-part harmony, find out what a chord is and play a chord pattern on tuned percussion, improvise a melody, read and perform pitch notation to a steady beat and perform an independent part within an ensemble.

DT

Y5 will be combining different fabric shapes. They will have the opportunity to plan, make and evaluate an item of their choice, for example, a tablet case, mobile phone carrier or a shopping bag.

Computing

The children will be working with Mr Keegan on stop motion animation. This will include: understanding animation principles; using hardware/software; applying basic coding concepts, and developing digital literacy through planning and editing to create a simple animation. They are going to have so much fun!

History:

Year 5 will be answering the question - Why Should We Remember the Maya? We will be using a wide range of sources to collect information and make deductions about the Maya. They lived in a jungle so we will be researching how they used the resources around them to succeed in making such a sophisticated civilisation.

Class Novel:

As this is The Year of Reading, we will be kicking off with *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. It tells the story of Auggie Pullman, a ten-year-old boy with a facial difference who is starting school for the first time. As Auggie joins Year 5 at Beecher Prep, he faces challenges, unkind behaviour, and moments of friendship. The story is told from different characters' viewpoints, helping readers understand how actions affect others. With support from his family and friends, Auggie learns to be brave and confident, while those around him learn the importance of kindness, empathy, and acceptance. *Wonder* encourages children to choose kindness and celebrate differences.

Check out our class page or follow us on Twitter @2025Fir

Mathematics

In maths this Term, we will be studying angles and transformations, but first we are doing fractions, decimals and percentages, including:

- Interpreting fractions in different ways
- Understanding equivalent fractions
- Connecting fractions, decimals and percentages
- Understanding mixed numbers and improper fractions
- Adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions

We will also be honing our increasingly speedy arithmetic skills with a weekly test, and (of course) our weekly Hundred Club times tables challenge - the children are unbelievably quick.

Things you can do with your child at home:

Please continue to hear your child read regularly at home and sign their reading record, remember that you can record any type of reading in it not just their reading book (For example, iPad apps, magazines).

Please ensure your child brings their book to school each day in order to change their books and take their quiz. Ask them questions about what they have read: who was their favourite character? Can they predict what might happen in the next story? Your involvement in your child's reading is important to their progress.

Encourage your child to write for a range of purposes: shopping lists, keep a diary, stories and comics.

Help your child to learn to read the time on both analogue and digital clock (Focus on 5 past and 5 to the hour and 10 past and 10 to the hour). Ensure that your child recognises the different coins and their values. Ask your child to show you the coins they need to buy an item and how much change they should receive from £1, £2, £5 & £10

Children in Year 5 need to know their times tables to 12×12 and the corresponding division facts. Times tables need to be practised a little each day. We will be using TTRockstars and would like children to play at home for at least 5 minutes everyday.

Alternatively, ask your child to put their fists up and show you the times tables chants. Then quiz them randomly.

Please teach your children how to tie their shoelaces.

Please support your child to complete their weekly homework.

English

This term the children will be studying the book, The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle. The children will be using this vehicle text to write their own 'Cliffhanger' narratives followed by a formal report. In a few weeks, we will study William Shakespeare's play, 'Macbeth'. The children will be writing a persuasive letter from Lady Macbeth to her husband urging him to make the witches prophecy come true.

Reading is a huge focus for us in Year 5. We will be spending plenty of time reading for pleasure while working hard to develop skills that will give children a deeper understanding of what they are reading and how to decipher new vocabulary. Every day, read extracts from a vast variety of books to develop our comprehension skills during whole class guided reading and children will continue to access Accelerated Reader to self-quiz on their reading for pleasure books.

We will be having separate spelling and handwriting lessons three times per week.

Science

Our science topic for the whole of this term is Properties of Materials. The children will learn to:

- compare and group together materials based on their properties
- know that some materials dissolve to form a solution
- use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated
- demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes
- give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic
- explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda

We will be playing lots of retrieval games so that the knowledge we gain goes into our long-term memories and stays with us, so we can make links with our future learning.