



September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year! We hope you had a restful summer break and that your children are ready for a busy and exciting year ahead. Our priority for the Autumn term is to ensure that Year 5 pupils are happy and feel settled after the summer holiday period. In class, and through the planned activities, we will focus on their collaborative learning and well-being.

We are looking forward to working with you and your children, and we are confident that we will have a brilliant year together. At Trent, we recognise that your child's success is often due to the tremendous commitment from the whole family team, so thank you in advance for your support. This letter is for your information, outlining the learning taking place in Year 5 this term.

Throughout the Autumn term, we will be covering the following:

Autumn 1st Half Term Topic – Vikings

Autumn 2nd Half Term Topic – Pharaohs

Subject	Learning taking place at school	Links to previous learning to use as discussion points at home	Additional ideas to support your child at home
English	English at Trent is often closely linked to our high-quality reading texts, and this year is no different. We will be reading <i>Beowulf</i> by Michael Morpurgo. This is quite a challenging text	The children will have developed an awareness of writing in a non-fiction genre throughout their time at Trent. It would be	Discuss the current topic with your child, ask them about their targets, and how they can improve their writing. Please encourage the use of a dictionary and thesaurus at home, and remind them to take extra care with presentation when completing homework activities. Children are encouraged to read every day and should be able to answer questions about

	<p>but will lend itself well to our creative writing during the first half of the term. The children will have the opportunity to write a CV related to our Viking topic and create their own monster tale based on our reading of <i>Beowulf</i>. In our Guided Reading lessons, they will also explore non-fiction through the book <i>Viking World</i>.</p> <p>After half term, we will continue reading high-quality texts, including <i>The Phoenix Code</i> by Helen Moss. This will help the children with their discovery story, which they will write later in the term. They will also read <i>Skellig</i> by David Almond and use their understanding of non-fiction texts to write an explanation text on how to mummify a body.</p> <p>Spellings will be a focus throughout the year. We will be using <i>The Spelling Book</i> by Jane Considine, which involves exploring strategies and</p>	<p>beneficial to discuss the tone of language used in non-fiction texts, as well as the presentational devices employed.</p> <p>The children will also have experience writing stories. It would be useful to discuss how authors tie their plots together to create a cohesive storyline that effectively leads the reader to the conclusion.</p> <p>Additionally, the children will be familiar with noun phrases, expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, and a range of punctuation from their previous years at Trent.</p>	<p>what they have read, as well as express their opinions about the text. Please ask your child a range of questions about what they have read to help develop their understanding.</p> <p>Children would also benefit from reading for 20 minutes a day at home. This will make a significant difference to their ideas for writing, vocabulary and comprehension in class.</p>
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	<p>patterns in spelling. The children will be familiar with this, as we have used <i>The Spelling Book</i> for the last two years at Trent. We will also practise common exception words every week to support the children with these.</p> <p>Punctuation and grammar will be taught in relation to each genre of writing. The children will revisit and build on their understanding of expanded noun phrases and apply these to their writing. They will continue to explore a range of punctuation and presentational devices. Additionally, the children will continue to learn about time conjunctions, time adverbials, fronted adverbials, and modal verbs this term.</p> <p>We will also focus on handwriting, aiming to improve the legibility and speed with which the children develop their joined writing style.</p>		
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<p>Maths</p>	<p>At Trent, we have adopted a spiral maths curriculum. This approach enables children to develop and deepen their understanding of different concepts throughout the year.</p> <p>In the first half of the term, we will be covering place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and 2D and 3D shapes.</p> <p>After half term, we will focus on place value, fractions, measurement and statistics.</p>	<p>The children will have substantial prior experience with the four operations from their time at Trent. They will also have learned about fractions and decimals in Year 3 and Year 4, as well as fraction equivalence.</p> <p>Additionally, the children will have covered shape in their previous years at Trent.</p>	<p>There is plenty of supporting material on Atom Learning for the different topics we cover throughout the year.</p> <p>BBC Bitesize has excellent resources to help consolidate your child's learning: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39</p> <p>To reinforce multiplication facts, you could play "Hit the Button" on Top Marks: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button</p> <p>Another good multiplication game is "Super Maths Bowling": https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/504/Super-Maths-Bowling-Multiplication</p> <p>You can also continue using Times Tables Rock Stars, which goes up to 20 x 20 and includes the equivalent division facts.</p> <p>A great website for maths visuals, including 3D shapes and their nets, as well as equivalent fractions, is Polypad: https://polypad.amplify.com/p#fraction-bars</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>This term, we will be studying the chemistry unit titled <i>Properties and Changes of Matter</i>.</p> <p>The children will explore the different properties of materials and how to compare and group them. They will then investigate</p>	<p>Year 5 pupils would have spent a few weeks learning about changes of state in Year 4. This prior knowledge will help them to understand the properties and the</p>	<p>If you cook or do art with your child at home, you could discuss the changes that occur when mixing things together and consider whether these changes are reversible or irreversible.</p> <p>Additionally, BBC Bitesize has some excellent resources for Science: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q</p>

	<p>the conductivity of materials, including electrical and thermal conductivity. The children will also learn about our key scientist, Stephanie Kwolek, who will inspire our science investigation on hardness.</p> <p>After half term, the children will focus more on changes of state and the concept of reversible and irreversible reactions. They will also use real-life examples to consider how these changes can be reversible or irreversible.</p>	<p>concept of reversible and irreversible changes in Year 5.</p>	
<p>Religious Education (RE)</p>	<p>This term, we will be learning about Christianity.</p> <p>In the first half of the term, the children will explore the miracles of Jesus through the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the miracle at the wedding of Cana tell us about Jesus? • What does the miracle of the feeding of the 	<p>Year 5 pupils will have a good foundation in learning about Jesus and stories related to Him through our collective worship and their prior RE lessons. Similarly, they will have a solid understanding of Christmas from collective worship and our Christmas units.</p>	<p>If you have a Bible at home, you could explore different stories featuring the miracles of Jesus and discuss them together.</p>

	<p>5,000 tell us about Jesus?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does the miracle of the woman who touched Jesus's garment tell us about Jesus?• What does the miracle of the healing of the paralysed man tell us about Jesus?• What does the miracle of the raising of Lazarus tell us about Jesus?• What do the miracles tell us about Jesus? <p>After half term, we will focus on Christmas through the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do the Gospel accounts reveal about the theology (beliefs) associated with the festival of Christmas?• How is the theology (beliefs) of Christmas		
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	<p>represented in art today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Christmas carols convey the central beliefs of Christmas to the world? • The Nativity narrative: whose story is it to tell? 		
Personal Social and Health Education	<p>During the first half of the term, Year 5 will be studying the units 'Self-Respect and Personal Goals' and 'Mental Health and Wellbeing'.</p> <p>As part of the 'Self-Respect and Personal Goals' unit, the children will reflect on their personal targets and ways to respect both themselves and others.</p> <p>In the 'Mental Health and Wellbeing' unit, Year 5 will explore the importance of discussing and understanding their feelings with others, as</p>	<p>Year 5 pupils should have discussed various emotions and strategies for managing them in previous years, as well as ways to set personal targets.</p>	<p>Talking with your child about their day, their goals, and their feelings will support their emotional literacy at home.</p> <p>Discussing your child's achievements, as well as those of others, will help them build respect for themselves and for others.</p> <p>When examining different media with your child, you could discuss whether the media is trying to persuade the audience and how it might be doing so. You might also want to explore the reasons behind why some media attempts to persuade the audience. For example, consider what an advert on TV is trying to persuade you to buy. Can you trust the advert? How could you find out if what it is saying is true?</p>

	<p>well as how to seek help if needed.</p> <p>After half term, Year 5 will study the units 'Media Literacy and Digital Resilience' and 'Friendships and Coping with Bullying'.</p> <p>As part of 'Media Literacy and Digital Resilience', Year 5 will examine sources of persuasion, including the media, and the importance of protecting personal information, such as passwords, addresses, and images.</p> <p>In the 'Friendships and Coping with Bullying' unit, Year 5 will discuss positive, healthy relationships (both online and offline), changes that occur in friendships, the impact of bullying, and how to recognise bullying behaviour (both online and offline).</p>		
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<p>History</p>	<p>During the first half of the term, Year 5 will be learning about Viking history. This will begin with exploring the significance and impact of power struggles on Anglo-Saxon Britain. They will then study the effects of the Viking invasion and settlement in Britain, compare and contrast different opinions of the Vikings based on their reputation, and learn about how we know about the Vikings through archaeological excavations.</p> <p>After half term, we will focus on Ancient Egypt. The children will learn about where the Ancient Egyptians lived and their place in history. They will then explore the Pharaohs and the hierarchy in Egyptian society, study Howard Carter and his discoveries in Egypt, and finally learn about Tutankhamun and what we have discovered from his burial.</p>	<p>Year 5's prior learning about the Anglo-Saxons will support their understanding of the impact of the Vikings on Britain and help them grasp the chronological sequence in history.</p>	<p>BBC Bitesize has some useful resources about the Vikings and Ancient Egypt on their website:</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zcw76sg</p>
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Design and Technology	During the first half of the term, Year 5 will learn about Viking craftspeople. They will explore different types of brooches from the Viking period, understand their purpose, and consider the materials that could be used to create their own Viking-inspired brooches.	Year 5 have studied and discussed brooches as part of their learning about the Romans.	You could examine different grips and fasteners on items at home and discuss how they work. If you would like to do additional research using non-fiction texts, you could visit a local library.
Art and Designs	After half term, Year 5 will learn about Egyptian hieroglyphs and create their own reliefs based on ancient tomb paintings.	Year 5 have previously worked with clay in Year 4, most recently to create their own fruit.	If you want to make items at home with clay and practise joining pieces together, this will help consolidate their understanding of how to join clay. Alternatively, if you are doing art at home with paint, discussing colour mixing and the use of tints would also be beneficial.
Computing	During the first half of the term, Year 5 will learn about Systems and Networks. They will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. The children will explore both small-scale and large-scale systems, explaining the input, output, and process aspects of various real-world systems. They will also learn how information is accessed on the World Wide Web, including	Year 5 will have experience of understanding systems and networks from their previous learning at school.	When searching at home, you could compare different search engines by looking at the first results that come up. This should be done with an adult if you are not using a child-friendly search engine.

	<p>how search engines work (such as how they select and rank results), what influences searches, and how different search engines compare.</p> <p>After half term, Year 5 will begin creating vector drawings. They will learn how to use different drawing tools to help them create images. The children will recognise that images in vector drawings are created using shapes and lines, with each individual element in the drawing referred to as an object. They will layer their objects and start grouping and duplicating them to create more complex pieces of work.</p>		
<p>PE (Physical Education)</p> <p>Mondays and Wednesdays</p>	<p>Children will have two weekly PE sessions taught by Mrs Kakouris. Floor gymnastics will be conducted in the school hall, while outdoor lessons such as netball and football will be held on the field or in the playground, depending on the weather and the time of year.</p>	<p>Mrs Kakouris will develop on pupil's prior learning of games and sportsmanship.</p>	<p>On PE days, children should come to school dressed in their PE kit (yellow Trent t-shirt, green tracksuit bottoms or shorts, green jumper and plain black or white trainers). No change of uniform in school is needed.</p>

<p>Music</p>	<p>Year 5 will have weekly music lessons throughout the Autumn term, taught by our specialist music teacher, Mrs Ordon. In Autumn 1, Year 5 will form a 'Year 5 band' and develop their skills in playing by ear and reading notation to perform several pieces as a class band using tuned percussion.</p> <p>In Autumn 2, Year 5 pupils will focus on developing their technique on the keyboard. They will learn to read basic musical notation (notes within the stave in the treble clef and basic note lengths) and be able to perform from notation. As part of cross-curricular activities, the children will perform the Viking-themed song "Loki, the Joker."</p>	<p>Year 5 will continue to build on their prior learning of percussion instruments and rhythm.</p>	<p>You might want to discuss the different instruments you can hear in music and how the music makes you feel. You could also talk about the pitch, rhythm, and pace of the piece of music you are listening to. You might even like to create your own music at home!</p>
<p>French</p>	<p>Ms Kenealy will teach French lessons during the Autumn term where children will learn a range of French vocabulary through song, games and role play.</p>	<p>Ms Kenealy will build on Year 5's prior learning of French.</p>	<p>You could talk to your child at home about the French they have learned. If you go to the shops, see if you can name the different shops in French based on what they've learned in their French lessons.</p> <p>If you want to further work on your French, you could explore</p>

			BBC Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty
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PE

Year 5 will have PE on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. Children need to wear full Trent PE kit to school on these days and no change of uniform is needed. We recommend that children wear their outdoor PE kits (green jogging bottoms, Trent PE top, green jumper). We ask that your child wears either black or white trainers.

Homework

Homework will be set on Google Classroom on Fridays and will usually consist of the following:

- **Atomlearning homework:** <https://app.atomlearning.com/>. We will generally set at least one piece of Maths, SPaG, and Science work.
- A topic-related piece of work linked to our current topic may also be included.

Homework is due by Wednesday. Please encourage your child to get into the routine of submitting their homework on time. If your child needs any help with their homework, they must come and see us before the Wednesday deadline so that we can provide support.

Even though homework is set on Atom Learning it is useful to sign up to Google Classrooms and for parents to have access too as we will put letters and information onto Google Classroom.

Reading

Please ensure your child reads for at least 20 minutes every night. Your child will have a reading record journal, which should be signed each day by an adult at home. These journals will be checked weekly and signed by a member of staff to acknowledge your child's commitment to their reading.

Equipment

Thank you for purchasing the school pencil case, which contains the equipment your child will need for this year. The items required for Year 5 are: a clear pencil case, a pencil, a rigid 30 cm ruler, a sharpener, a glue stick, a writing pen, a protractor, a whiteboard pen, a purple pen, a yellow highlighter, and a whiteboard eraser. These items can all be purchased from School Money. Throughout the school year, your child may need some items in their pencil case replaced. Please check with your child regularly to see if they need any new items, and we would be grateful for your support in this.

Please provide your child with a clearly labelled water bottle each day. We have water bottle holders at the back of the classroom for your child to store their bottle. You are also welcome to send your child in with fruit or vegetables for breaktime; please label these with your child's name and place them in their personal tray, ready for them to collect at breaktime. Please note that winders and crisps are not appropriate breaktime snacks.

Wet Play

If your child would like to bring in an activity book to keep in their tray for use during wet play and Golden Time, they are more than welcome to do so. **Please do not send your child in with additional squishies, fidgets or crafts. These are not allowed in school and they will be asked to take them home.**

Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy has been clearly explained to all the children across the school. They understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and are responding positively. In Year 5, we will encourage and recognise positive behaviour by rewarding children who make a significant effort in various ways.

Home Time

If anyone else is collecting your child, please do either let us know in the morning or call the School Office. If we have not been told that anyone else is collecting your child, we will not let them go at the end of the day even if it is with a parent in the class. We will be unable to dismiss children to different people if we have not been informed by the parent of the child.

We look forward to working with you during the terms ahead and we know it will be a brilliant year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions via an email or phone call to the School Office.

Best wishes

Miss Holmes and Ms Panayiotopoulos

Key Dates

- **2nd September** – Inset Day
- **3rd September** – Start of Term
- **13th September** – Curriculum Information Meeting at 2:45 pm
- **19th September** – History Off the Page Viking Day
- **26th September** – MET Police Visit
- **15th October** – UCL Chem Air Pollution Visit
- **28th October – 1st November** – Half Term
- **4th November** – Start of Term
- **22nd November** – Inset Day
- **25th November** – Inset Day
- **2nd December** – British Museum Egyptian Trip
- **3rd December** – UCL Chem Air Pollution Visit
- **23rd December** – End of Term
- **6th January** – Start of Term