

**Year 5**  
**Parent Curriculum Letter**  
**Spring Term 1 2026**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Firstly, we would like to begin by thanking you all for your generous gifts before Christmas. It was really kind of you.

As always, this letter will contain an overview of what we will be learning this half-term in the different curriculum areas. If you have any questions about what we will be learning, then you can contact me on the class email

[year5@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year5@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk) or write a message in your child's planner. Please visit the class page on the website to see weekly updates of our learning. P.E. will continue to be on a Friday so please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct P.E. uniform on these days. This can include a dark blue or black tracksuit with suitable footwear

Best Wishes,

Mr Hakner, Mrs Bankole and Mrs Stanyon

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Weeks 1-2: Explanation Texts:</b> The pupils will explore a range of explanation texts. They will explore the purpose and features of an explanation text and will then create their own explanation text linked to the famous fictional inventors 'Wallace and Gromit'.</p> <p><b>Week 3-5: Adventure texts:</b> The pupils will be exploring a range of adventure texts including 'Kidnapped' by Pie Corbert. They will explore the features of an adventure text and will take on the roles of different characters before planning and writing their own adventure story.</p> <p><b>Weeks 6: Poetry:</b> The pupils will be exploring spoken word and performance poetry including 'The Ning Nang Nong' by Spike Milligan and 'Bed in Summer' by Robert Louis Stevenson.</p> <p><b>Spelling Patterns-</b></p> <p><b>Week 1:</b> Exploring words ending with the 'le' sound</p> <p><b>Week 2:</b> Year 3 and 4 Spelling words Dictation</p> <p><b>Week 3:</b> Year 3 and 4 Spelling words Dictation</p> <p><b>Week 4:</b> Exploring words ending with -ably or -ibly</p> <p><b>Week 5:</b> Exploring words ending with -cious or -tious</p> <p><b>Week 6:</b> Exploring words ending in -ent, -ence, -ency</p> <p><b>Handwriting and Spellings:</b> This will be taught in daily discrete lessons and practised throughout the curriculum. The pupils will be learning to write in continuous cursive.</p> <p><b>We Read:</b> The pupils will have a guided reading session every day. Three of these sessions will be whole class guided reading lessons. In these sessions, the children will be reading 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. The two remaining sessions will focus on developing comprehension skills.</p> <p><b>Once upon a time:</b> At the end of each day, we read a high-quality text to the pupils for 15 minutes. These sessions promote and develop a love of reading as pupils are exposed to books and genres that they might not naturally choose themselves. This half term we will be completing the story 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Week 1:</b> The pupils will develop their understanding of written methods of multiplication.</p> <p><b>Week 2:</b> During this week, the pupils will explore written methods for division.</p> <p><b>Week 3:</b> The pupils will use their knowledge gained over the last two weeks to solve problems involving multiplication and division.</p> <p><b>Week 4 and 5:</b> During these weeks, the pupils will develop their understanding of fractions including multiplying fractions by an integer and calculating fractions of amounts.</p> <p><b>Week 6:</b> For this week, the pupils will begin linking their understanding of fractions and decimals.</p> <p><b>Take 5:</b> The pupils will also be taking part in 15-minute consolidation sessions each day to revise a range of core mathematical concepts and consolidate their learning.</p>
<b>Science</b>	<p><b>Properties and changes of materials:</b> In this unit, the pupils will learn about different materials, their uses and their properties. They will also explore dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. The pupils will use what they have learnt to sort and classify materials as well as choose an appropriate material to complete a task. Whilst completing their enquiries they will develop their scientific skills including asking questions and drawing conclusions, taking accurate measurements and making predictions.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Programming A:</b> This half term, the pupils will be using Micro:bit computers. They will learn how to programme their Micro:bit using the Makecode software to create an algorithm which their Micro:bit will then follow. They will look at the difference between count-controlled and infinite loops, and how to use the Micro:bit's different input sensors to create different outcomes including a name badge, step counter and simple game.</p>
<b>P.S.H.C.E.</b>	<p><b>Dreams and Goals:</b> The pupils will be learning about ways they can achieve their dreams and goals. They will be looking at lifestyle choices, investigating careers and how they need to be motivated to achieve this. They will also be looking at the dreams and goals of children in other cultures and how to communicate and support their peers to achieve their aspirations.</p>

<b>Geography</b>	<b>Why do oceans matter?:</b> In this topic, the pupils will explore the importance of the world's oceans. They will investigate how the oceans are used by humans and the impact human activity has on them. Additionally, they will explore ways that the oceans can be protected both at a global level and what can be done locally before completing a piece of fieldwork at the River Gade.
<b>Music</b>	<b>The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air:</b> In music this half-term, the pupils will be learning to perform the song 'The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air' by DJ Jazzy Jeff and The Fresh Prince. They will learn to sign as part of a group and develop their understanding of different musical terminology including pitch, tempo, rhythm and texture. They will also use recorders to accompany the song.
<b>Art</b>	<b>Architecture:</b> In this unit, the pupils will develop their observational drawing, printmaking and building designs, and will encourage pupils to explore a range of architectural elements. They will analyse the work of Hunderwasser and use what they have learnt to create their own architectural designs.
<b>French</b>	<b>Shopping in France:</b> In this unit, the pupils will develop their understanding of numbers including 2-digit numbers. They will learn to recognise and say a variety of words relating to shopping as well as continue to develop their understanding of the gender/article relationship.
<b>P.E.</b>	<b>Dance:</b> This half term in P.E. we will be focusing on dance. The pupils will learn dances from different styles and will also develop their understanding of different dance terminology. They will develop their ability to work collaboratively as well as how dance can be used to convey a feeling or emotion. Please ensure your child comes into school in their school PE kit. This can include a dark blue or black tracksuit with suitable footwear. Please provide ear tape if earrings are unable to be removed. <b>Our PE lessons are on a Friday.</b>
<b>Homework</b>	<b>TTRockstars:</b> The children are expected to complete <b>a minimum of 25 minutes TTRockstars practise each week.</b> This helps supports to pupil's fluency when solving multiplication and division problems in class. <b>Reading:</b> Pupils are expected to read <b>a minimum of 5 times a week.</b> These should include a range of books which have been chosen at school. Once the book has been completed, the pupils are to take an Accelerated Reader quiz about it at school. This helps support their understanding of what they have read. <b>Maths:</b> This will be given out on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday. We will go through the questions and answers together on Wednesday morning.

**Special dates and events this term:**

- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January - Class Assembly
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Doodlebug drawing workshop
- W/B Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Week
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - End of Term