

**Year 5**  
**Parent Curriculum Letter**  
**Spring Term 2 2026**



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a fantastic half term!

This letter outlines the curriculum coverage of this half term - if you have any questions at all please feel free to 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 continue to look at our class page on the website to see what we have been up to in class each week.

P.E. will continue to be on a Friday. Please ensure 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. Please provide ear tape if earrings or jewellery are unable to be removed.

Best Wishes,

Mr Hakner, Mrs Bankole and Mrs Stanyon

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Week 1-2: Poetry</b> - During these weeks, the pupils will read, write and perform a range of free verse poems, including <b>The Magic Box</b> by Kit Wright and <b>The Metaphor Family</b> by Lill Pluta, with a focus on creating imagery.</p> <p><b>Weeks 3-4: Persuasive Writing:</b> We will be writing persuasive arguments and letters on a topic of the pupils' choice. We will practise using persuasive techniques and words and phrases to make our writing more cohesive.</p> <p><b>Week 5: Suspense and Mystery:</b> The class will be reading a range of short mystery and suspense stories such as <b>'Short!'</b> by Kevin Crosseley-Holland. We will explore how authors create tension and build excitement in their writing and using this to plan and write a short suspense section of a story</p> <p><b>Spelling Patterns</b></p> <p><b>Week 1:</b> Exploring words ending in -ent, -ence, -ency</p> <p><b>Week 2:</b> Words with the suffix -ate</p> <p><b>Week 3:</b> Words with the suffix -ise</p> <p><b>Week 4:</b> Words with the suffix -ify</p> <p><b>Week 5:</b> Words from the Year 5/6 word list</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 completing <b>"Street Child"</b> 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 finishing <b>Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief</b> by Rick Riordan.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Week 1:</b> This week, the pupils will be developing their understanding of fractions and decimals including comparing and ordering decimals</p> <p><b>Week 2:</b> The pupils will use their understanding of decimals to round to the nearest whole and 1 decimal place</p> <p><b>Week 3:</b> During this week, the pupils will link their understanding of fractions and decimals to percentages</p> <p><b>Week 4:</b> In maths this week, the pupils will explore area and perimeter of compound shapes</p> <p><b>Week 5:</b> The pupils will interpret a range of graphs and charts</p> <p><b>Take 5:</b> The pupils will also be taking part in 15-minute consolidation sessions each afternoon to revise a range of core mathematical concepts and consolidate their learning.</p>
<b>Science</b>	<p><b>Properties and changes of materials (continued):</b> This half-term the pupils will be continuing their learning about materials and their properties. They will be exploring reversible and irreversible changes as well as how different materials are suited to everyday tasks. Throughout the half-term, the pupils will have the opportunity to plan and carryout a range of enquiries to deepen their ability to work scientifically.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Flat-file Databases:</b> This unit looks at how a flat-file database can be used to organise data in records. Pupils will use tools within a database to order and answer questions about data. They will create graphs and charts from their data to help solve problems. They will use a real-life database to answer a question and present their work to others.</p>
<b>P.S.H.C.E.</b>	<p><b>Healthy Me:</b> This half term, within our 'Healthy Me' topic, the pupils will be learning about the risks linked to smoking and alcohol misuse; focusing on how these affects the lungs, liver and heart. They are taught a range of basic emergency procedures (including the recovery position) and learn how to contact the emergency services when needed. The pupils look at how body types are portrayed in the media, social media and celebrity culture. They also talk about eating disorders and people's relationships with food and how this can be linked to negative body image pressures.</p>
<b>History</b>	<p><b>The British Empire:</b> In this topic, the pupils will be exploring how the British Empire grew to cover almost a quarter of the Earth's surface in 1921. They will explore why the British Empire grew and what contributed to its eventual decline. The pupils will also develop their knowledge of the commonwealth and its significance.</p>

<b>R.E.</b>	<b>Buddhist worship:</b> In this topic, the pupils will learn about the story of Buddha and the core beliefs of the Buddhist religion. They will explore the Four Noble Truths and the Eight-Fold Path and how Buddhists believe in Karma and reincarnation.
<b>DT</b>	<b>Mechanical Systems - Gears and Pulleys:</b> In this unit, the pupils will give examples of machines that use gears and/or pulleys. They will describe how gears and pulleys work as well as design and make a gear and pulley system for an Eco Gadget Bike. They will then evaluate how successful their Gadget Bike was.
<b>French</b>	<b>French-speaking world:</b> During this topic, the pupils will learn to listen and respond to directional language, ask and answer questions to do with French speaking countries and use appropriate vocabulary when discussing the climate in French speaking countries.
<b>P.E.</b>	<b>Badminton:</b> This half term, the pupils will be developing their understanding of net and wall games. They will learn different techniques used including serving, forehand and backhand whilst considering strategy and attacking principles. They will use what they have learnt to play games where they will demonstrate collaboration, strategy and fair play. <b>Our PE lessons are on a Friday.</b> 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 or jewellery are unable to be removed.
<b>Homework</b>	<b>TTRockstars:</b> Pupils should complete at least <b>25 minutes a week on TTRockstars</b> to support their fluency. This will support them when solving complex multiplication and division questions in class. <b>Reading:</b> Please continue to encourage your child to read <b>at least 5 times a week at home.</b> Pupil's who do this will be added into the school's Golden Ticket draw as well as our Year 5 draw. <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:**

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March- Book Week
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March- GVSA Book Sale at 3:15pm
- **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March- World Book Day: dress up as your favourite book character, author or illustrator.**
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March- Year 5 Parent Teacher Consultations (8:00am-10:30am)
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March- Year 5 Parent Teacher Consultations (4pm-7pm)
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March - CHAMP4LIFE
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - GOAL DAY
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March- School Disco (3:15pm-4:30pm)
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March- End of Term 1pm finish