


YEAR 5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2025/26						
	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
 English	Relationships in Fiction: This unit invites pupils to explore the emotional depth and complexity of relationships—between families, communities, and the natural world—through Morpurgo's timeless story 'The Wreck of Zanzibar'. As they read, pupils will strengthen their higher order reading skills and develop empathy by expressing character perspectives through a variety of creative writing formats. Using Alan Peat's sentence structures, they will build a versatile bank of sentence types to enhance their writing fluency and style. This is a thoughtful and imaginative unit designed to nurture emotional intelligence and expressive writing.	Poetry: This inspiring unit invites pupils to step into the world of poetry and discover the magic of words. They will explore a variety of poetic forms—from playful clerihews to elegant haikus and rhythmic ballads—building their own personal anthologies that showcase their unique voice and imagination. A highlight of the unit is our deep dive into the work of beloved Cornish poet Charles Causley. Pupils will research his life, rehearse, and perform one of his poems—bringing his words to life through confident, expressive performance.	Myths and Legends: In this captivating unit, pupils will journey into the magical world of traditional Cornish myths and legends, exploring tales like The Mermaid of Zenor and Jack the Giant Slayer. These timeless stories will spark imagination while deepening pupils' understanding of narrative structure and storytelling techniques. This unit blends creativity, cultural heritage, and powerful writing—encouraging pupils to become confident storytellers with a strong sense of voice and imagination.	Narrative Poetry: This unit introduces pupils to the rich tradition of narrative poetry, focusing on classic works such as The Highwayman, The Listeners, and Jabberwocky. Through close analysis, pupils will examine the structure, language, and literary devices that bring these poems to life, while expanding their subject-specific vocabulary. Pupils will be encouraged to collaborate in group performances, developing confidence and interpretive skills.	World War 2: This deeply moving unit invites pupils to explore the human side of history through a selection of classic texts set during World War II. Through powerful storytelling, they will gain insight into the lives of evacuees, the challenges faced on the home front, and the global impact of war. They will develop empathy, strengthen their comprehension skills, and engage in thoughtful discussions that connect literature to real-world events. This unit helps pupils appreciate the resilience of those who lived through extraordinary times—and the importance of remembering their stories.	The Ballerion Award: This exciting environmental programme inspires pupils to connect with nature through adventure, exploration, and service. From cycling coast-to-coast and exploring Bodmin Moor's industrial past to beach cleans and mine visits, pupils experience Cornwall's wild places firsthand. They will also complete a self-led conservation project and contribute to their community—building responsibility, resilience, and environmental awareness in unforgettable ways.
Maths	Our mathematics curriculum is designed to build on prior learning while encouraging each student to develop confidence and fluency in key mathematical skills. Students will progress through the topics at a pace suited to their individual attainment. While all students will cover the core content, some may move beyond these areas into more advanced concepts as the year progresses. Over the year, students will deepen their understanding of numbers up to one million, exploring place value, partitioning, ordering, comparing, and rounding, as well as using these skills to solve real-life and practical problems. They will work with negative numbers, decimal numbers, and Roman numerals, and develop strategies for estimation and approximation. In geometry, students will investigate angles and degrees, explore reflections and translations on grids, describe position changes, and work with both 2D and 3D shapes, including polygons and cuboids. They will learn to classify shapes, recognise properties of rectangles and other polygons, and draw 3D shapes using models, nets, and isometric representations. Fractions and decimals will be a major focus, including equivalence, ordering, mixed numbers, improper fractions, addition and subtraction with like and unlike denominators, and multiplying fractions by whole numbers. This will extend into percentages and their relationship with fractions and decimals, reinforcing real-life applications. Students will consolidate mental and written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, including long multiplication and division, grid methods, factors, multiples, prime numbers, square and cube numbers, and using arithmetic operations to solve multi-step problems. They will apply estimation, rounding, and inverse operations to check solutions, and solve practical problems involving rate, ratio, and scaling. Data handling will include line graphs, tables, timetables, and frequency tables, with students interpreting information and solving related problems. Measurement will cover perimeter, area, and volume, as well as converting units of length, mass, and capacity across metric and imperial systems. Time will be applied across 12- and 24-hour formats, including calculating durations and solving word problems involving time. Throughout the year, all learning is applied to real-life contexts, developing problem-solving, reasoning, and calculation skills, while providing opportunities for students to extend their understanding through more complex and challenging work.					
Science	Mixtures. Classifying Materials		Life Cycles. Plant Reproduction.		Forces. The Solar System.	
Humanities	Would the Vikings do anything for money? What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today? The five pillars of Islam.		What is life like in the Amazon? (To include Fairtrade fortnight.) Cornish mining - a story of boom and bust? Methodism.		Why should we remember Maya? What is the history of Truro School?	
MFL	Spanish: Pupils will learn how to describe their family and introduce their brothers and sisters. Cultural focuses will include "El Día de los Muertos" and Christmas traditions in Spain. French: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in French, as well as introduce themselves and say how they are feeling. We will also cover the numbers 1-20. The term's cultural focus will be on "Le jour de l'Armistice" and Christmas traditions in France. German: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in German. We will compare going to school in Germany with going to school in England, covering vocabulary linked to the topic, such as school subjects, numbers to 21 and pencil case items. There will be a cultural focus on Christmas traditions in Germany.		Spanish: Spanish: Pupils will learn how to describe their family and introduce their brothers and sisters. Cultural focuses will include "Las Fallas" in Valencia and Easter traditions in Spain. French: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in French, as well as introduce themselves and say how they are feeling. We will also cover the numbers 1-20. The term's cultural focus will be on "La fête des Rois" and Easter traditions in France. German: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in German. We will compare going to school in Germany with going to school in England, covering vocabulary linked to the topic, such as school subjects, numbers to 21 and pencil case items. There will be a cultural focus on Easter traditions in Germany.		Spanish: Pupils will learn how to describe their family and introduce their brothers and sisters. Our cultural focus will look at "Los Sanfermines" festival in Pamplona. French: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in French, as well as introduce themselves and say how they are feeling. We will also cover the numbers 1-20. The term's cultural focus will be on "Le poisson d'avril" and "La fête nationale". German: Pupils will learn how to meet and greet in German. We will compare going to school in Germany with going to school in England, covering vocabulary linked to the topic, such as school subjects, numbers to 21 and pencil case items. There will be a cultural focus on German speaking countries.	
Art	Developing use of sketchbooks. Observational skills and developing own ideas. Creative use of stencils for cover design. Birds - learning drawing skills and observational skills - constructing complex shapes, using tone, experimental mark-making with ink and implements. Clay maquettes. Ceramic birds. Contextual inspiration. Link with John Muir.		Mixed media project with artist context -Observational drawing, larger scale working; use of chalk and charcoal and pens; positive and negative shapes; tone in various media; developing skills in using paint, pastel, collage; composition and design.		Exploring the school environment - range of artists and responses including observational drawing outside. Artist workshop (tbc) landscape painting and space/depth. Introduction to perspective.	
DT	Use of a variety of materials and components to produce a range of decorative and functional products. They will gain confidence in following a task list, reading simple engineering drawings, measuring accurately and cutting materials accurately. More emphasis will be placed on the finish of a product.		The children will gain an understanding of typography and the use of type, this will be incorporated into their Door Hanger project. An introduction into, 3D drawing techniques and some basic practice using Isometric drawing on grid paper. The pupils will develop an understanding of fashion and its impact on the environment, within this project they will also gain an understanding of techniques such as image transfer, screen printing and dying techniques.		Children will learn to generate a range of ideas based on the design brief. They will use a range of drawing skills, discussion, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design. They will continue to practice soldering skills and gain further knowledge of circuit design. They will become more aware of the materials used, and the design that has gone into everyday devices/products.	
Music	Developing the Thinking Voice and inner musical hearing. Developing vocal skills through wide range of repertoire including Christmas content. Musicianship and developing music literacy. Sight-Singing skills to incorporate familiarity of notes 3 5 and 6 of any scale. Developing rhythmic awareness and understanding to include all basic note values. Listening to and appreciating diverse musical styles.		Exploring performance poetry and sound poetry as two distinct forms of contemporary performance and utilising techniques from each in the production of an original performance poem of their own. Developing vocal skills. Musicianship and developing music literacy. Listening to and appreciating diverse musical styles.		Exploring the musical techniques of Gamelan music and use them to tell a story through a musical performance. Developing vocal skills. Musicianship and developing music literacy. Listening to and appreciating diverse musical styles.	
Drama	Activities to develop teamwork and confidence working towards a performance. Rehearsal and performance of the Christmas production.		Vocal delivery, mime and stagecraft.		Improvisation, activities designed to develop confidence and movement.	
Computing	Computing systems and networks: understanding how search engines work and developing searching skills to find relevant and accurate information online. Programming: applying programming skills to create sounds and melodies leading to a battle of the bands performance.		Data handling: identifying some of the types of data that the Mars Rover collects and explaining how the Mars Rover transmits the data back to Earth. Programming: clipping blocks together in a program and predicting what will happen while making connections with previously used programming interfaces.		Creating media: storyboarding ideas, taking photographs and editing to create a video animation. Skills showcase: learning about pixels and binary, creating a pixel picture and saving a JPEG as a bitmap to understand the transfer of image data	
PE	Swimming, Multi-Skills Swimming: relearn some basic skills and build on those with progressive practices in each of the four strokes. Time-trials held at start of the year, in order to select our swimmers to represent the school in training and galas.		Swimming, Gymnastics Swimming: continue our high standard of basic good practices such as push and glides with streaming every time the children start. This term sees our House galas and the Year 5 & 6 attending Millfield for the IAPS swimming round.		Swimming, Athletics Swimming: increase endurance and skills the children will the following a simple program as well as practice drills and whole stroke work. Water safety skills and knowledge will be revised as many increase their use of outdoor water activities. Also go across to the Senior School, to work towards their personal survival awards.	
Games	Rugby, Hockey, Netball, Football		Hockey, Netball, Football		Cricket	
PSHE	Being Me in My World - 'Who am I and how do I fit? Celebrating Difference - Respect for similarity and difference. Anti-bullying and being unique.		Dreams and Goals - aspirations, how to achieve goals and understanding the emotions that go with this. Changing Me - coping positively with change.		Relationships - Building positive, healthy relationships. Healthy Me - Being and keeping safe and healthy.	