

Year 5 Summer Newsletter 2026

We hope you have had a lovely break! We are looking forward to an exciting and busy Summer Term in Year 5 and would like to share an overview of the learning and key information for the term ahead.

In English, we will be working with a variety of texts to inspire our writing. To start with, the children will explore Shackleton's remarkable Antarctic expedition and use this as a stimulus to write for a range of purposes. They will develop their skills in persuasive, narrative and report writing, focusing on accurate use of tense, direct and indirect speech, using colons to link related ideas and descriptive techniques to show characters' feelings. Following this, we will be looking at *The Island* where children will focus on selecting precise, powerful vocabulary to create vivid character descriptions and narratives. They will use similes, personification and "show, not tell" techniques to deepen inference in their writing. Finally, we will be looking at Malala Yousafzai with writing inspired by her Nobel Prize speech, where the children will craft their own persuasive speeches, using effective rhetorical devices and ambitious vocabulary to influence their audience.

In Maths, children will deepen their understanding across a range of interconnected topics. They will begin by developing their skills in statistics, learning to interpret and draw tables, line graphs and timetables. This will lead into geometry, where they will explore angles, measure and draw them accurately, and use angle facts to solve problems. Children will also work with coordinates, translations and symmetry before moving on to applying efficient strategies to add and subtract decimals, including numbers with different decimal places. Later in the term, pupils will build confidence working with negative numbers and learn how to convert between metric and imperial units, as well as units of time. Finally, they will explore volume and capacity through practical estimation, comparison and measurement.

Our texts this term are *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill and *The Unforgotten Coat* by Frank Cottrell Boyce. These engaging books explore themes of exploration, friendship and belonging, providing rich opportunities for discussion. Children will continue to develop their reading fluency and comprehension through our VIPERS approach (Vocabulary, Inference, Predict, Explain, Retrieval and Summarise).

In Summer 1, children will explore the question "Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?" and learn about Jewish beliefs, teachings and traditions. In Summer 2, they will compare Christian and Humanist beliefs as they explore "What matters most to Humanists and Christians?" and consider what guides people to live good lives.

Please make sure you look at the newsletter weekly to see the amazing learning we will be doing!

If you have any questions, please email your class teacher:

anelson@redhill.worcs.sch.uk and pballinger@redhill.worcs.sch.uk

Homework:

- Maths – TTRS practice 3 x per week
- Reading – At least 15 mins per day texts logged in their reading diary. Reading diaries will be checked each Friday.
- Spelling – Each week, new spelling games will be added to your spelling shed log ins. Practice 3 x per week.
- Optional house project homework in order to earn house points

PE:

- Outdoor PE, Tennis, will be on a Monday. Please ensure your child has the appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather. Our indoor PE will be replaced Forest School on a Thursday. Please ensure children come suitably dressed for outdoor learning, with spare footwear or wellies in a named bag.