

Year 5 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success
Autumn Term 2

**Monday 3rd November 2025
to
Friday 19th December 2025**



Theme – Let's Set Sail!



What will we read this half term?



Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

Washed up on an island in the Pacific, Michael struggles to survive on his own. With no food and no water, he curls up to die. When he wakes, there is a plate beside him of fish, fruit and a bowl of fresh water. He is not alone...

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all of the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

English

Our English unit will cover a range of activities which provide opportunities for reading and writing using the novel *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. Your children will be writing balanced arguments, ship logs and a narrative in the style of the book, as well as using their reading gems to help their comprehension of this well-loved story.

We will also complete weekly spelling and handwriting activities too.

Maths

In Maths, we will be working on the following areas:

- recognising equivalent fractions
- converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa
- comparing and ordering fractions less than and greater than 1
- adding and subtracting fractions



We will also be revising our multiplication and division facts, using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can also be accessed at home. Children have been given their login details and have been shown how to access the resources from home.

Science

Our 'Properties and Changes of Materials' unit will teach your children about different materials, their uses and their properties, as well as dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. Finally, they will conclude the unit with a surprise enrichment activity.

Research Topic - Geography

This half-term, our Geography unit will be answering the question 'Why do oceans matter?' This unit includes learning about the importance of our oceans, locating and describing the significance of the Great Barrier Reef, to explain the impact humans have on coral reefs and to understand ways to keep our oceans healthy.



Art

In Art, we will be learning about the features of installation art and how it can communicate a message. We will also be exploring the work of Cai Guo-Qiang and Louise Bourgeois and discover how our life experiences can inspire our art.



PSHE

Our whole-school PSHE theme is Celebrating Difference. The children will be considering important issues such as racism, cultural conflict and bullying whilst celebrating difference across the world. In addition to this, we will be reading about the life of Rosa Parks, the 'mother of the freedom movement'. Her courageous decision on a segregated bus had a huge impact on civil rights.



Music

Our music learning is focused around the style of jazz music. This is an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music, singing and playing instruments are all linked. The learning will be centred around two jazz songs and the children will have the opportunity to improvise a Three Note Bossa and a Five Note Swing our art.

PE

In our outdoor PE this term the children will be working on their Foot Golf skills. The children will be developing sending the ball (kicking) with accuracy, introducing tactical thinking and developing striking the ball (kicking) with power/over a distance.

In our indoor PE this term the children will be working on their Handball skills. The children will be consolidating passing and receiving, exploring the function of other passes, developing defending, develop passing and creating space, introduce officiating and refining shooting.

Computing

Learners will take a look at the work of 3D printing and virtual reality (VR). Children will create their own avatars and VR worlds, using AI to help create worlds and images.

Foreign Languages

Our French unit is 'At the Tea Room'. In this unit, the children will learn how to remember and recall a wide variety of foods, snacks and drinks typically served in a French tea room.

Design & Technology

The children are going to build on their knowledge of mechanical systems to plan and create a pop-up book based on our English text, Kensuke's Kingdom. They will use a range of mechanisms and structures to illustrate their story and make it interactive for the readers.

RE

Our RE unit is an Islamic focus exploring the key question: What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today? We will learn how Muslims live according to the Five Pillars of Islam—faith, prayer, charity, fasting and pilgrimage.

Homework

Your children will continue to receive a piece of English and Maths homework every week and are expected to practise for their weekly spelling and times tables/division tests. We ask that you encourage your children to read at home and to please check and sign their times-tables, spelling and Reading Record books weekly.

We also recommend using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can be accessed at home, to support children in their learning of multiplication and division facts.



We really look forward to the half term ahead. If you need to get in touch, please write a note in your child's Reading Record or speak to a member of staff on the classroom door who will be happy to answer any queries.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Coles, Miss Hind, Mrs Newton & Miss Ravenscroft.