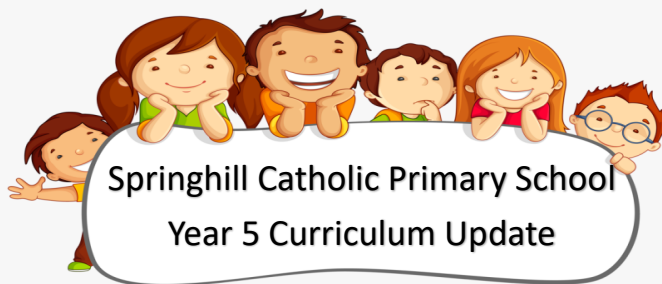




The water that I will give them will become a spring of water within, welling up to eternal life.
JOHN 4:14



Autumn 1 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our half termly newsletter which will give you a flavour of what your child will be learning and experiencing in year 5 during the upcoming half term. We hope you find it useful.

A very warm welcome to year 5 —we are excited to get stuck into a wonderful year of learning and fun with your child. The year 5 curriculum builds on the children's existing knowledge and skills through a broad variety of subject topics. We hope that your child thoroughly enjoys their learning with us —it is our aim to ensure that every year 5 pupil feels proud, confident and accomplished.

This first half term promises to be busy and stimulating, ending with a trip to London on October 20th, during which we will visit the Houses of Parliament and ride on the London Eye. Please keep your eyes peeled for more information about this trip very soon!

All year 5 children will begin the year with a handwriting pen. We really want your child to take the utmost pride in their presentation and hope that the privilege of using a pen will encourage them to do so. We will support your child to develop their best possible handwriting and presentation through daily practice and targeted support where needed. It is our aim that all children feel really proud of their exercise books and the work within them.

We will begin **writing** this half term, focusing on the use of metaphors and personification to build vivid descriptions inspired by a very poignant picture book by Grahame Baker Smith. '*FARTHER*' tells the story of young boy whose inventor father is obsessed by his dream of flying. When his father is called to war, the boy inherits his father's passion. Following on from this and in preparation for our trip to Parliament, your child will write a persuasive letter about refugees to the Home Office, based on the experience of characters from our class novel, '*The Boy at the Back of the Class*' by Onjali Q. Raúf. We hope to present some of these in person during our visit!

Please remember to read daily with your child and complete the reading challenge. Daily reading will ensure your child has the best start in life.

In **maths**, we will be working on place value (which includes ordering, comparing and rounding numbers up to 1,000,000). We will also be practising the arithmetic skills which underpin your child's maths learning; the year 5 daily maths homework will focus on these skills. Throughout year 4, your child worked so hard to learn their times tables and it would be very helpful if you could encourage your child to keep practising these using Times Table Rockstars at home.

We will begin our **RE** learning by keeping our faith fresh with our School Charism (based on John 4:14): Jesus is our 'living water'. Following this, our Creation unit explores the two creation stories and what it means to be the People of God.

In **geography**, we will be learning about the changing shape of our coastlines, using 4-figure grid references to explore land-use and natural resources in the UK, and finally about what we use lines of latitude and longitude for.

Our first **science** topic is '*Earth and Space*' and we will use a range of practical activities and experiments to investigate our Solar System, the phases of the Moon, day and night and seasons.

In addition to the subjects above, we are also extremely lucky as we continue to have a specialist teacher delivering our **music** curriculum. PE is on a Wednesday this year but we ask that kits are in every day.

Remember, we are here to help— if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us! From Mrs Pollard and the year 5 team—Miss Palmer and Mr Ashdown.

Dates for the diary

- PE every Wednesday (the children will wear their kits home)
- 5th September— St Teresa's House Feast Day
- 11th September—Year 5 parents information meeting (online)
- 14th September—Education Sunday (wear school uniform to Mass)
- 6th October— Harvest Festival
- 20th October—trip to London and the Houses of Parliament