



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



Spring 1 2026

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.

Dear Parents and Families,

A very warm welcome back to Spring 1! We hope that the Christmas break brought peace, joy and some well-deserved rest for you and your hardworking children. As we step into 2026, we are excited to share the wonderful learning opportunities and experiences planned for this half term. Spring 1 promises to be full of engaging activities and new learning including a Science Show to spark curiosity and wonder: at Springhill learning is always active and this term will be no exception.

Our **writing** unit will begin with Newspaper Reports. The children will be transported back in time to the Blitz, exploring journalistic writing as they produce articles covering historical events of WWII in Southampton. The key learning will include: subordinating and coordinating conjunctions as well as the features and structure of effective newspaper reports.

In **maths**, we will continue to build on addition and subtraction skills practised through daily homework in the Autumn term. We will then move into our Measure unit, with a focus on money. Children will learn to:

- Compare and order amounts of money.
- Convert between pounds and pence.
- Add and subtract using money.
- Find change and estimate amounts.
- Solve multi-step, real-life money problems.

This unit will help children apply their mathematical knowledge to practical, everyday contexts. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child completes their daily maths, spelling and reading homework. The homework structure will remain the same this half term, providing consistency and routine to support learning at home.

Please remember to read daily with your child and complete the reading challenge.

We will begin our **RE** learning with our Christmas unit, which explores what we can learn from the journey of the Wise Men and the message we can take from the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. This unit will look at the Christmas story in greater detail, considering some of the challenges faced by the Holy Family. In particular, children will reflect on the experiences of being homeless and a refugee, drawing connections between the plight of Jesus and the lives of refugees and the homeless today. The role of King Herod will be examined to highlight the difficulties faced by those seeking safety and shelter. Alongside this, we will focus on Christmas as a time of prayer and devotion.

Our next **science** topic is Forces. Through a range of practical activities and experiments, children will investigate: what gravity is and how it works, why some objects fall faster than others and the factors that affect the fall of a parachute. This hands-on approach will encourage curiosity and deepen understanding of the physical forces that shape our world.

Following the completion of our WWII History unit, Year 5 will move on to an exciting new Geography topic. This unit will focus on the **key topographical features of North and South America**, helping children to develop a deeper understanding of the physical geography of these continents.

In addition, we will explore **land-use patterns** across key countries and cities, examining how human activity interacts with the natural environment. This will give children valuable insights into how geography shapes communities and influences the way people live and work.

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.

Dates for the diary

Key dates:

- 5th January – First day back
- 6th January – Epiphany Mass in School
- 12th January - KES Science Show in school
- 13th February - Palm Burning Liturgy
- 13th February - Ashing services