



Wood End Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

Year 5 I Spring Term 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to a new year and hope you all enjoyed your half term break. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

We have an exciting curriculum planned for the first half of the Spring term. In Geography, pupils will be learning about mountains, while in Science they will be exploring materials. English and Maths lessons will continue daily, alongside our regular reading sessions.

Please ensure that your child reads daily at home and that this is recorded. We also encourage pupils to practise and use new vocabulary both in school and at home wherever possible.

Themed days

We will be celebrating and discussing the following:

- Holocaust Memorial Day
- Chinese New Year 2026 - Year of the Horse
- Amongst other key festivals and celebrations

Trips

We do not have a trip this half-term. A trip will take place in Spring 2.

ourselves in many different ways – as scientists, geographers, historians, artists and technologists to name a few!

Below is a breakdown of the skills and knowledge to be covered in each subject through this term.

English:

We will be starting our character writing unit by focussing on the genre of 'Wishing Tales'. We will look at ways of improving our writing through the use of descriptive language and speech. We will be practising a range of sentence types and exploring how to use conditional sentences, modals and perfect tense forms. We will then move onto Non-fiction writing and work on discussion texts exploring issues connected with our history and science topics as well as our class reader.

Children will start reading 'Journey to Jo-burg' by Beverley Naidoo and explore the issues raised.

Maths:

In maths this term, we will be encouraging a deep understanding through fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Pupils will focus on multiplication and division, including multiplying numbers up to four digits by one- and two-digit numbers. They will use formal written methods and learn when to apply them efficiently.

We will also explore division with remainders, including how to interpret remainders in real-life contexts. Throughout the term, there will be a strong emphasis on mathematical reasoning, with pupils explaining their thinking using correct vocabulary. Children will apply their skills to a range of problem-solving tasks, making links between different areas of maths.

Computing:

This term in computing the pupils will be learning about:

- Game creating
- Spreadsheets
- Word processing, Microsoft Apple and Google.

Religious Education:

Pupils will be discussing how art and design is used to express different beliefs.

Science:

This term we will be learning about forces.

This will include:

1. Not all metals are magnetic.
2. Understand the difference between "transparent,"
3. Sort materials into different categories eg: solids, magnetic etc

Geography:

This term, Year 5 pupils will be exploring mountains. Pupils will develop essential geographical skills, including:

- Using maps, globes and coordinates
- Reading physical and relief maps
- Interpreting photographs and diagrams
- Using correct geographical vocabulary

Reading:

We will be developing reading with expression, inference and being able to answer questions about the text.

IMPORTANT! Reading Records should be signed and brought to school every week. Signed daily.

Art/DT/ Music

In Art, children will be learning about African Art with a focus on Mali and the Benin culture.

During Music, children will continue using the Ealing Music Scheme- Charanga.

Physical Education:

In P.E the children will learn, develop and apply all gym skills on the floor, with hand apparatus and on low apparatus through focused skill development, sequence creation and games.

They will also learn and develop their netball skills.

Quizzes to help your child remember previous learning.

An exciting part of our school website is the curriculum page.

Help your child to commit important knowledge to long term memory by using our 'low stakes' multiple choice quizzes on the website. Click the link below and work through the quizzes with your child to help them retain the key knowledge and concepts from their previous term's units.

<https://www.woodendprimaryschool.com/our-curriculum/>

Useful websites to support learning in this topic

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/>

Knowledge Organiser – Art from Western Africa (Art - Year Five)

Key Vocabulary	Definition
peoples	Members of a particular nation or community.
ceremony	A social or religious occasion often celebrating a particular event.
Bamana peoples	A group of peoples living mainly in Mali, Western Africa.
headdress	A covering for the head, especially worn in ceremonies.
Edo peoples	A group of peoples living mainly in southern Nigeria.
Benin City	A city in southern Nigeria, West Africa. Benin City flourished from the 14 th -17 th centuries as the centre of the Benin Kingdom.
plaque	A flat, decorated slab, often square or rectangle that is fixed, to a wall or other surface and remembers an event or a person.
relief	Where sculptures stick out from a flat surface, rather than being made all the way around
cast	The process of making an object by shaping liquid metal in a mould.
brass	A metal made by mixing two other metals, copper and zinc.
ivory	A hard, white substance, made from the tusks of elephants, which can be carved.

Countries in Western Africa



Art	
<p>Antelope Headdress, Mali (Bamana peoples) 19th century/early 20th century (Metropolitan Museum of Art, U.S.)</p>	<p>Benin Plaque, Nigeria (Edo peoples) 16th century (British Museum)</p>
<p>Benin Ivory Mask of Queen Mother, Nigeria (Edo peoples) 16th century (British Museum)</p>	<p>Benin Ivory Salt Cellar, Nigeria (Edo peoples) 17th century (British Museum)</p>