



# ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

November 2025

Issue 2

## Year 5 News

'Learning, Loving and Sharing, guided by Jesus'

X (formally Twitter): @StLaurenceJnr

Year 5 had a great first half term and are settling into routines and new expectations. The children thoroughly enjoyed their topic work based on rivers including their fieldwork trip to Woodgate Valley and did a great job in designing and building their own bridges as part of D&T. We appreciate the support we've received from parent volunteers and hope that this continues. As always, this half term is a very busy one as we begin to prepare for Christmas.

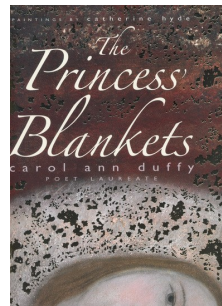
## English

### Reading

We will continue to promote reading for pleasure across a range of genres. Year 5 will continue to use the library on Fridays.

### Writing

This half term we will be using a short story in the form of an alternate fairy tale as our stimulus—The Princess' Blankets. The children will be writing formal letters initially and will then build up the skills to write their own version of the story.



### Maths

In Maths, we will begin by looking at fractions. The children will also be taking part in the first set of assessments. Incorporated into every lesson will be arithmetic skills and regular practice of the skills learnt in previous years. Children are encouraged to continue with Times Tables Rock-stars—Which level of rock star are you?

### Homework

Maths and English homework continue to be set on Fridays using the online platform Atom Learning. Children will also receive their spelling homework from CUSP which began last half term. Homework is due in on Wednesday. If you have any issues accessing the internet for homework, please let your child's teacher know so that an alternative can be arranged.

## DIARY DATES

### Friday 7th November:

Anti-Bullying Homework handed out

### 10th—14th November :

Anti-bullying week

### 11th and 13th November

Parents Evening

### Friday 14th November

INSET day

### 17th—21st November:

Interfaith week

### Friday 21st November

2:30pm—3:10pm - Interfaith Exhibition (parents Invited)

### Tuesday 25th November

Year 5 fabulous finish

### Tuesday 2nd December

Advent services in Church

Christmas Film Night

**Friday 5th December:** non-uniform for Christmas Fair (bring a gift)

### Wednesday 10th Decem-

**ber :** Christingle service in school (parents invited)

### Friday 12th December:

Christmas Fair

### Monday 15th December:

Tinsel disco

### Friday 19th December

Pantomime and last day of term

Monday 1st December.



# curriculum

Our new unit in **Geography** is 'Journey through North America.' This unit will take the journey following the Pan-American Highway, starting in the far north of Alaska down to Panama. The children will be developing their map skills by describing the position of countries and capital cities in North America using compass points and 4 figure grid references. They will be comparing different biomes like Death Valley to Alaska and understanding the extreme differences. Later in the unit, we shall be comparing Birmingham to Phoenix which are both similar in size but visually very different. Our unit of work will also look at human features of North America and why people choose to migrate.



In **Art** our unit is "Drawing: I need Space" where we will be exploring the art of Teis Albers.

Our **Science** unit this half term will be Forces. We will be experimenting with gravity, air resistance and water resistance.

In **French** we will be focussing on the topic 'On Holiday'. Children will learn how to ask for directions and order food from menus.

In **RE** our focus will be on Incarnation and our key question is "Was Jesus the Messiah?" Here the children will be understanding what is meant by the word Messiah and both Jewish and Christian beliefs of what a Messiah is. We will be making connections between bible texts, incarnation and messiah and the children will be weighing up their ideas and thoughts on what impact a messiah has on the world today. We will also be celebrating Inter-faith week with a Diwali drama workshop. Our School Value will be: Forgiveness.

**PE** will take place every week with an indoor and, where possible, outdoor session. Our indoor sessions will focus on rhythmic gymnastics and our outdoor sessions will be basketball. 5CS and 5RS PE day will **move from Thursday to Monday**.

Our **PSHE** topic this half term is 'celebrating differences.' The children will be understanding cultural differences and how they can cause conflict. We will be discussing different types of bullying and understanding the negative effect that this can have.

For **Computing** our unit is "Computing Systems and Networks: Search Engines." Children will be learning what a search engine is and how to use it, recognise that not everything we read or see online is accurate and to search effectively.

## **Growing Gains Project**

Growing Gains will begin on a fortnightly basis with Mrs Sheppard (Lyndsey). These sessions will take place outside in the allotment, so **appropriate outdoor clothing will be required** (coat and sometimes wellington boots). At the end of the school year, the children have a feast day, where they will be able to harvest, cook and eat some of the produce they have grown.

## **ANYTHING ELSE?**

Please ensure your child has the correct kit for indoor and outdoor PE lessons. Also, please ensure children come to school wearing the correct uniform including a tie.

**Year 5 Team – Mr Stonehall (Year Leader), Mrs Robinson, Ms White, Mrs Camwell, Mr Cooke and Mrs Jones**