



ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

January
2026

Issue 3

Year 5 News

X (formally Twitter): @StLaurenceJnr

Happy New Year!

The Year 5 team hope that this newsletter finds you well and that you and your children have had a happy, healthy and relaxing Christmas and New Year ahead of a busy Spring term.

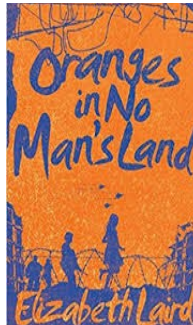
English:

Reading

This half term we will be exploring a wide variety of texts including poems, newspaper articles and Greek myths. We will be reading aloud together, looking at the vocabulary within the text and discussing and answering questions. Please ensure that children are still reading regularly and are writing 3 comments per week in their Reading Record.

Writing

We will be focusing on the fantastic book 'Oranges in No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird this half term. The children will be writing letters in role to persuade based upon characters from the book and then retelling an event from two different points of view.



Maths

In our sets this half term, we will be revisiting multiplication and division (including multiplying up to 4 digits by up to 2 digits and dividing with remainders). We will also continue to look at fractions and decimals whilst introducing percentages to expand children's knowledge of equivalents.

We actively encourage the children to continue to practise their times tables as by Year 5, the children should know all their tables and corresponding division facts in and out of order. Children will have Maths ATOM homework weekly and still have a TT Rockstars log in.

It would be beneficial for our Year 5 children to continue accessing TTRS regularly as this keeps multiplication skills sharp and ensures that any problem areas or tricky times tables are worked upon and improved.

DIARY DATES

Monday 5th January

Teacher training day

Tuesday 6th January

Children return to school for Spring term

Monday 12th January

GROOVY GREEKS

Inspiration day

Friday 23rd January & Friday 30th January

Year 5 visit Balaji Temple

Date 1: 5CS and 1/2 5CW

Date 2: 5RS and 1/2 5CW

GROWING GAINS

(Alternate Thursdays)

15th January

26th January

9th February

End of Half term

13th February



curriculum

This half term our topic is the 'Groovy Greeks'. This unit of work will span over two half terms. Inspiration Day will be on Monday 12th January 2026. We would like the children to come into school dressed as a 'Groovy Greek.' The children will be learning about the differences between Athens and Sparta and will understand the term democracy. They will also learn about Greek warfare, daily life and beliefs.

In **D&T** the children will be focusing on food, understanding where food comes from and what we mean by healthy. We will then be adapting a traditional recipe and making our own bolognaise.

Our **PSHE** topic this half term is 'Dreams and Goals'. We will be covering our future dreams, the importance of money, jobs and careers including our dream jobs and how to achieve these goals.

In **Science** we will be looking at living things and their habitats.

PE will continue to take place every week with an indoor and, where possible, an outdoor session. This term we will focus on Dance and Tennis.

In **RE** the children will be learning about Hinduism. Here we will focus on where Hinduism is practised including where and how they pray. Children will look into the Hindu belief of Gods and the colourful festivals which they celebrate. We will also be visiting the Hindu temple, with half of the Year Group going on 23rd January and the remaining half going on the 30th January.

In **French** we will be looking at the language associated with seasons. The children will be able to say when their birthday is and name craft materials.

In **Music** the children will be completing a ukulele course.

ANYTHING ELSE?

Reading: Children will be coming home with reading books weekly. Please continue to encourage your children to read at home and fill in their reading records. Please initial their entries to show that you have heard or seen them read.

Homework will continue to be set online on Fridays and we ask that it is completed by the following Wednesday.

Spellings will continue to be based around our lessons in class taken from the CUSP curriculum. The children will have weekly spelling homework to be completed in their English homework books.

Uniform As we come into the colder months, please ensure all children have the correct PE kit in school and a coat.

As always, if you do need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Year 5 team.

Year 5 Team – Mr Stonehall (Year lead), Mrs Robinson, Ms White and Mrs Camwell