

Year 5



At Orchard Academy we are

Ready



Respectful



Safe



Summer 1 Space

English

This half term, the children will focus on narrative writing and poetry. In narrative work, they will develop sentence structure, explore characters' feelings, and learn how these influence dialogue. They will also use punctuation, including parenthesis, to enhance description and imagery.

In poetry, children will draw on personal experiences to create structured, rhythmic poems. They will also develop performance skills, learning how verbs and punctuation can shape meaning and engage the reader.

Maths

This term, children will complete their measurement unit, including learning the difference between metric and imperial units. They will then return to fractions, focusing on adding and subtracting.

To support this, children will build on their understanding of converting fractions so they have a common denominator. A secure knowledge of times tables will be essential to help with this work.

Science

This term, children will be learning about the solar system, including how it works, why planets orbit, and the positions of the planets within it.

To support their learning, we will be visiting the Space Centre in Leicester on 8th May, giving children a valuable opportunity to explore the solar system in a more visual and engaging way.

Humanities

This term, children will be learning about the Ancient Mayan civilisation. This will link to their geography topic on Mexico in Spring 2.

They will compare Mayan culture with their previous learning on the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, exploring their gods, architecture, and key achievements.

PSHE

The children will focus on friendship and identity. They will explore how to build positive relationships, stay safe online, and manage challenges within friendships. The children will also learn the importance of treating others with respect and kindness.

Religious Education

In RE, children will continue learning about Christianity. They will explore the beliefs and traditions of Christians and learn more about Jesus as a key figure within the religion.

Music

In Music, children will explore Balinese Gamelan, learning about interlocking rhythms, vocal chants, and musical cycles. They will then move on to composing in ternary form (ABA), using the pentatonic scale while considering tempo and dynamics, inspired by 20th-century orchestral music.

Art

In Art, children will explore a space theme, focusing on how colour, shape, and texture can be used to create exciting imagery. They will study the work of illustrator and designer Peter Thorpe and use his style as inspiration to create their own final piece.

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Key Vocabulary

English	Narrate, infer, compose, prediction, performance, speech, inverted commas, compound, complex and simple sentences, verbs
Maths	Fractions, denominator, numerator, addition, subtraction, measurement, difference between, altogether
Science	Solar system, theory, scientist, cosmic, asteroid, satellite
Humanities	Bajos Cenotes Maya Calendar round Causeway Cacao Terrain Currency Gods Husk panpipes
PSHE	Friendship, relationship, decision,
Music	Tempo, pulse, composing, rhythm,
Art	Illustration composition, tonal form, texture, pattern
Spanish	Clothes, tense, verb,
Computing	Publishing, digital, tools, documents, purpose, ownership, privacy, editing, improving,
RE	Jesus, disciples, traditions, faith, church,
PE	Throw, dodge, baton, stretch

Computing

In Computing, children will learn how to create, edit, and produce a video linked to their space theme. In E-Safety, they will continue to develop their understanding of how to stay safe online, with a focus on wellbeing and maintaining healthy habits.

Spanish

In Spanish, children will focus on vocabulary related to clothes while developing their understanding of masculine and feminine forms. They will also build confidence in speaking through a focus on oracy skills.

PE

In PE, children will develop their athletics skills in preparation for Sports Day in Summer 2. They will also focus on handball, practicing throwing techniques and teamwork.

Homework

Homework will be sent home on Friday and returned Wednesday. It will include key spellings, timetables, maths practise, a grammar challenge and the option of a selection of topic-based activities.

How you can help at home

Read Read Read! Pick up a book, magazine, dictionary or comic and enjoy some time engrossed in what you read. Research information online. Look, cover, write, check those spellings! Make all learning fun and real. Practice maths skills through outdoor activities, use chalk, find numbers and multiply them. TTRockstars-practice the times tables as a daily routine to ensure they are embedded.