



Brooksward School
Curriculum Newsletter
Year 5/6
Spring Term, 2026



Welcome back!

This leaflet is to provide you with some information about the experiences the children will have this term and the expectations we have so they can be successful in Years 5 and 6.

If you need further details about anything in this leaflet then please contact your child's teacher who will be more than happy to help.

We look forward to continuing to work with you during the year so that your child can enjoy school life and achieve as much as they possibly can.

The Year 5/6 Team.

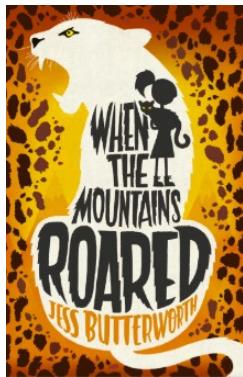
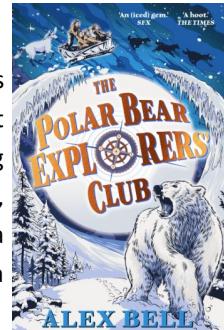
Year 5/6 Staff:

Teachers: Miss Docherty & Mr Macdonald, Miss Regan & Mrs Stevens, Miss Brereton and Miss Finning

Supported by: Mrs Boothman, Mrs Jain and Mrs Safi

English

During the first half term, we will be reading Polar Bear's Explorer's Club by Alex Bell, which is a fiction text about Stella, who challenges gender stereotypes by travelling across magical lands. Linked to the text, in Literacy lessons, we will explore persuasive devices through writing a balanced argument to join the ship as well as writing a newspaper report about Stella's amazing journeys.



Following this, in the second half term, we will be reading When the Mountains Roared by Jess Butterworth, which is a mystery story about Ruby; a girl who uncovers some dark secrets in the Himalayan Mountains. Linked to the text, we will be writing narrative conflicts based on the story, as well as a non-chronological report about snow leopards. In addition, children will continue to take part in reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons as well as regular handwriting practise.

Maths

This term, Year 5 and 6 will be consolidating their written method knowledge for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Year 5 will then begin their Fractions unit whereby they will continue to add and subtract fractions. This will set the foundations for next half term, where they will begin to convert between fractions and decimals. Year 6 will complete their unit on Percentages before moving onto Algebra, Ratio and Shape. Both year groups will focus on the three strands of mathematics: fluency, problem solving and reasoning and interventions will be put in place to ensure children have a good understanding of each strand.



Geography

Our topic in the first half term is Frozen Kingdom; in this topic, we will be learning all about the Arctic and Antarctic circles as well as developing further technical knowledge involving the position and significance of latitude and longitude. We will also look at the tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, the Equator and learn about different time zones around the world. During the second half term, our topic is Rivers and Mountains. We will look at the features of rivers, the ways that they change over time and why they are so important to the towns and villages that have developed on their banks. In addition, we will find out the different ways in which mountains have been formed and how they have been shaped over time.



Science



In Year 5, this half term, we will begin by learning about Living things and their habitats. In this unit of work, we will learn about the life cycles of insects, birds, mammals and amphibians. The children will also explore reproduction in different plants, including different methods of pollination and asexual reproduction. In Year 6, we will be focusing on light and shadow. This will include many investigations of how we can manipulate light and demonstrating how reflectors work. In the second half term, Year 5 will begin a larger topic of work based on Materials. We will be exploring different materials, their uses and their properties, as well as dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. The children will then explore the properties of materials to find the most suitable material for different purposes. In Year 6, we shall be looking into electricity whilst constructing real-life circuits. We shall also be learning about how different thickness of wires effects the brightness of a bulb.



Art

In art, we are learning about masks from around the world. We shall be looking at different cultures, such as Maori, Brazilian Carnival Masks, Japanese Samurai Warriors Masks. We shall be designing our own masks at the end of the topic and performing a fashion show of our wonderful creations!

DT

In the following half term, we shall be creating clothing for a mountain climber, which will link nicely to our topic of Mountains and Rivers. We shall be creating warm woolly hats and snoods, using appropriate materials. As well as this, we shall be teaching the children backstitch and creating embellishments. We might even do another fashion show to perform!



PSHE

In the first half term, we shall be discussing how we can be respectful to all those in all sections of society. We shall look at the topic of diversity and what this means when responding to conflict. In the next term, we shall be discussing human rights and how charities and voluntary groups support those in need.



Computing

In Computing our focus will be e-safety this term: Year 5s will be learning about personal data and creating blogs advising others how to keep their personal details safe. Year 6s will be learning about e-safety within the context of digital medial and copyright. They will then use this learning to create a Prezi presentation for a specific audience.



Later in the term, the children will continue developing their knowledge of algorithms and the language of programming using Scratch (Year 5) and Kodu (Year 6).



Music

For this term, we shall be learning about various musical terms such as rhythm, pitch and tone when singing various songs linked to different cultures using our Music Express.

French

In Year 6, the children shall be learning to say what they have done at the weekend and express their opinions in French.

In Year 5, the children shall be learning about sports and how to say what they do and don't like in French.



RE

In we will begin the first half term by learning about the word 'sacrifice' and what this means to people of many different faiths and religions. After half term, we will exploring the difference between the laws of a country and religious beliefs.



P.E

The children will be working with Coach Dave to learn about the rules and skills needed in different indoor and outdoor invasion games. In Year 5 they will be focusing on hockey and Year 6 will focus on tactics within a range of games). To participate safely in the lessons, the children must bring in a full PE kit on the following days:

Swans: Tuesday and Wednesday

Herons: Tuesday and Wednesday

Mallards: Monday and Thursday

Kingfishers: Monday and Thursday



Homework

Every week, the children will be expected to complete the following homework:

- Times table or division facts practise - 4 times
- Spelling practice - 4 times (Spellings will be tested on Wednesday in Year 6 and Friday in Year 5)
- Reading - 4 times (Reading diaries will be checked on Fridays in Year 5 and Thursday in Year 6)
- One piece of Maths to be completed on MyMaths and Teams. (Set on Thursday, due back on the following Tuesday)

Teachers will be rewarding great home learning habits with dojos!

Dates for your diary

These are not exhaustive and subject to change

W.B 12.01.25—Y6 MOCKS

26.01.26—Herons Parks Trust Trip

29.01.26—Swans Parks Trust Trip

W.b 02.02.26—Story/Writing Week

03.02.26—Bedtime stories evening (Year 5/6 Twist)

06.02.26—Book Character Dress Up Day

13.02.26— Talent Show

W.b 16.02.26— Spring Half Term Break