

# CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 5 - Autumn 2



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TRUST

## Exwick Heights Primary School

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Tuesday 11th November 2025

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 5 pupils,

In **English**, we will be reading and writing **Christmas stories** for children. We will use new grammatical features such as relative clauses to add detail to our writing as well as expanded noun phrases and rich and varied vocabulary. Secondly, we will be reading a variety of poems and writing poetry about the sea.

**Supporting your child at home:** Please encourage your child to practise any new spellings set using 'Doodle Spell'. There will also be English tasks set through 'Doodle English'. Please provide opportunities for your child to practise their handwriting at home.



This half term's weekly **reading** themes include topics like Nigeria and Intriguing Openings. We will begin our new class book- Tom's Midnight Garden- and enjoy choosing books of our own during our trips to the library.



**Supporting your child at home:** As always, do encourage your child to read a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction. Year 5 children should read at home for a minimum of 30 minutes a day and, for each book your child reads, they can complete an Accelerated Reader quiz to earn points - eventually becoming a Word Millionaire and more! Regular reading will be rewarded with tickets in the 'Read to Succeed' draw, where they could win a book!

**Maths** learning will be **fractions**-focused! We will learn about equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions before adding and subtracting fractions together.

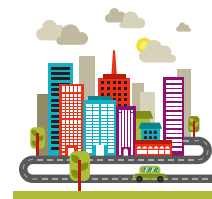
**Supporting your child at home:** Please encourage your child to complete the activities set on 'Doodle Maths'. They are also able to access 'Doodle Tables' to complete independent practice.



Continuing from our learning last half term, we will complete our study of **properties of materials** in **Science**. We will explore the differences between reversible and irreversible changes, identifying the appropriate separation processes and the effects of burning.

**Supporting your child at home:** Investigating irreversible change through baking is a great activity.

Building on previous learning about migration in Year 4, our **Geography** learning will take us around the world discovering various **informal settlements**. We will look at identifying what a slum is, case studies of different shanty towns and how the lives of inhabitants are being improved through self-help schemes. **Supporting your child at home:** Ask your child about their learning and explore some of the global informal settlements they are familiar with together online.



Sensational sauces will be created in our **DT** unit, '**From Farm to Fork**'. We will adapt recipes to include healthy alternatives, considering the nutritional value of various ingredients before devising our own sauces, ready for taste testing!

**Supporting your child at home:** When food shopping, you could look at food labels together to find out more about what's in our food!

REACH THE HEIGHTS



For outdoor **PE**, our sporting superstars will develop attacking and defensive techniques in **hockey**. We will be learning about how to play hockey and learn how to be agile and spatially aware. For indoor **PE**, the children will learn all about dance, including how to be strong, flexible and co-ordinated in a routine.

**Supporting your child at home:** You can encourage lots of physical activity - perhaps through joining a club or simply through regular family walks!

In **PSHE** this half term, each year group explores the theme of '**Celebrating Difference.**' In Year 5, we will learn about our own and others' cultures, how this can lead to conflict and how to resolve disputes. We will also further our understanding of British Values through discussion of direct and indirect bullying.

**Supporting your child at home:** Discuss the British Value of tolerance at home to support children in their work on other's cultures.



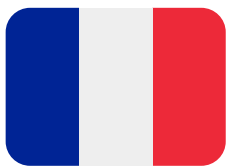
In **RE**, the key question this half term is '**Why do Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah?**' Following on from learning about Christianity in previous years, we will explore this big question in detail. We will think about the qualities needed to be a saviour and make links to our own experiences.

**Supporting your child at home:** Have your own discussion about the qualities needed to be a saviour - Why not create a poster to highlight these?

In our **Music** lessons, we will be looking at '**Performance Singing - Inter-related Dimensions of Music.**' Within this unit, the children will learn about musical elements such as pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and notation. We will also continue with our weekly singing assemblies in the hall. The songs are catchy so don't be surprised if they make their way home!



**Supporting learning at home:** Please encourage your child to practise the words for the songs they are learning in school.



Excitingly, our **French** learning will support us to write Christmas cards to our pen-pals in France! Our core topic is '**Eating Out,**' where we will learn a various words, phrases and sentences around food and drink, including some Christmas-themed treats, too!

**Supporting learning at home:** There are lots of apps to help with language learning - try Duolingo with your child.

**Home Learning:** All 'core' home learning will be checked on a Friday, with time scheduled in the day to share and celebrate any 'Curiosity' tasks completed. If you would like to email anything to share in this session, please use the [admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk) address.

Christmas here we come! We will be in touch soon with more information about the festivities planned for the Christmas season. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email [admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk); your query will be passed to them. If you have any concerns or want to bring something to our attention, please do contact Miss Baxter.

Miss E. Williscroft and Miss E. Baxter  
Attenborough

Miss M. Hansed  
Goodall

Miss R. Gabb  
Nakate