

# CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 5 - Summer 1



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## Exwick Heights Primary School

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Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup> 2026

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 5 pupils,

In **English**, we will be using Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom* to learn how to write incredible adventure narratives. We will then write our own narratives with a focus on setting and character description. After that, we will write animal reports and the children will be able to choose their favourite animal to write about.



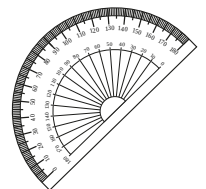
**Supporting learning at home:** please encourage your child to practise any new spellings set using 'Doodle Spell'. There will also be English tasks set through 'Doodle English'. Please provide opportunities for your child to practise their handwriting at home.



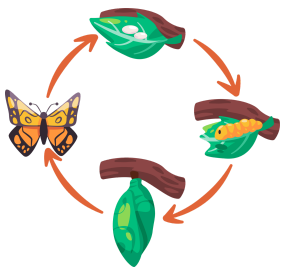
This half term's weekly **reading** themes include topics such as Beetles, Life Cycles and analysing song lyrics! We will be focusing on developing reading stamina, tackling longer extracts to derive hidden meanings.

**Supporting learning 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!

**Maths** learning this half term will be focused around the topic of **Shape**. For the first time, the children will learn how to use a protractor to draw acute, obtuse and reflex angles. We will also build on learning from Year 4 around statistics, learning to interpret graphs and two-way tables.



**Supporting learning 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.



Moving from Physics to Biology, our **Science** learning this half term will immerse the children in the **Natural world**. We will learn about different life cycles, complete and incomplete metamorphosis and conduct research into famous naturalists.

**Supporting learning at home:** watching nature documentaries and reading books about our planet would be really helpful. Some gardening and exploration of different plants may also be a great activity to complete together!

**History** is a popular subject in Year 5 and the children are very excited to learn all about the **History of Exeter**. Using our topic booklets, we will study the origins of Exeter, why Exeter was so important during Tudor times, Charles Dickens' links to the city and why the production of wool was pivotal for the success of our local area. Excitingly, we will go on a walking trip around Exeter, where the children have the opportunity to see the historical features and locations that they have been learning about.



**Supporting learning at home:** perhaps your child could be a tour guide for you after our trip and share what they have learned?

REACH THE HEIGHTS

**Sculpture and 3D creations** will be a focus for our work in **Art and Design**. We will be learning about memory boxes and using our own memories to create a memory sculpture. We will explore using different materials, colours and textures and draw inspiration from various sculptors and artists by looking closely at their work. **Supporting learning at home:** you could encourage your child to start thinking of some key memories that matter to them.

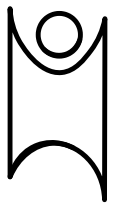


With (hopefully!) sunshine on the horizon, all of **PE** lessons will be outdoors this term. In **Basketball**, we will learn a range of skills, including how to use a forward pass and wing play to build an attack as a team. In **Athletics**, we will prepare for sports day with classics such as hurdles, team relay and javelin.

**Supporting learning at home:** you could encourage your child to join a sports club in or out of school, walking all or part of the journey to and from school or simply through regular family walks!

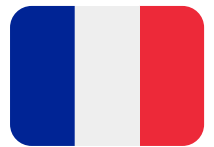
In **PSHE** this half term, each year group explores the theme of **'Relationships.'** In Year 5, we will learn about online communities, screen time and setting boundaries for time spent online gaming. The children will consider how to plan in time for additional offline hobbies that support physical and mental wellbeing.

**Supporting learning at home:** encourage your child to try out your hobby with you or join them for theirs!



In **RE**, the key question this half term is 'What does it mean to be a humanist in Britain today?' We will explore what it means to be a humanist, as well as similarities and differences between humanists and other religions. We will learn about humanist values and beliefs and also compare these to our own values and beliefs.

Our **French** learning this half term is around the topic of **Seasons**. We will learn a variety of words, phrases and sentences that will help us have discussions about seasons. We will enjoy French question and answer sessions, where we can discuss this with each other, as well as reading a French story using the vocabulary we have learnt throughout the topic. **Supporting learning at home:** there are lots of apps to help with language learning - try Duolingo with your child.



**Computing** this term is focused on learning about **selection in quizzes** using **programming software!** The children will become familiar with programming terms such as sequence, selection, and repetition through creating and debugging their very own code using Scratch software.

**Supporting learning at home:** to help prepare for quiz development using Scratch, you can recap algorithms by listing the steps needed to make a sandwich!

You could even start to recap coding knowledge from Year 4 using this bitesize link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zvnrq6f>

Home Learning: all 'core' home learning and reading records will be checked on a Friday with time scheduled in the day to share and celebrate any 'Curiosity' tasks completed.

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 the Year Group Lead - Mrs Gwilt.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. Gwilt  
Attenborough

Miss M. Hansed  
Goodall

Miss R. Gabb  
Nakate