Windmill Hill Primary School

Spring Term 2026 Curriculum Plan

Class 5

English	In the first half term, we will build on our science topic, 'Evolution and Inheritance', to indulge in a learning journey about Charles Darwin. We will work on a discovery narrative during the 'Read to Write' lessons and explanation texts within our 'Steps to Read' lessons. The children will read a variety of books about the life and works of Darwin including a poetry book, 'Darwin – A Life in Poems' written by his great - great granddaughter, Ruth Patel, and a fictional account of his life journey through 'Darwin – An Exceptional Voyage'. In contrast, the book 'When the Whales Walked' allows the children to gain exposure to a non-fiction text. In the second half term, our theme is 'Wolves'. The 'Read to Write' aspect is a revision unit and the children will be using their prior knowledge to create different text types and demonstrate their independent application at a distance from direct teaching. Our revision units provide the children with a larger number of writing opportunities for a wider range of audiences and purposes. In addition to our writing lessons, we will continue to work through our 'Step to Read' sequence of lessons to improve our reading comprehension skills.
Mathematics	**Year 5** In the first half term, we will delve into fractions. We will be comparing fractions and using addition and subtraction to solve problems. As the half term goes on, we will be multiplying and dividing fractions by whole numbers and showing answers as improper fractions and mixed numbers. We will then focus on decimals. This will include learning to read and write decimals numbers whilst comparing them in value. Children will finish the unit by focusing on how to add and subtract decimal numbers. This will be followed by a brief look at percentages – comparing quantities and converting fractions. The half term will end with geometry. The children will be measuring and investigating angles, drawing angles and solving problems to find missing angles. **Year 6** This half term will begin with recap of our learning from the first term. We plan to complete an assessment to identify any misconceptions that remain from the learning in term one. We will transition into the term by continuing our learning of fraction multiplication and

	division. We will then switch our focus to the use of decimal numbers. Pupils will read and write decimals before moving on to dividing and multiplying decimals by 1-digit numbers with no regrouping or renaming. Pupils will then be asked to write fractions as decimals using division and pictorial methods before looking at multiplying fractions which involve some regrouping and renaming by 1-digit numbers. We will then study measurement. In this chapter, the focus is on converting units of measurement using fractions and decimals. Following that, pupils will be exploring how to calculate percentage of numbers and quantities. They will be learning about how to solve for percentage change and use percentage to compare amounts. In ratio orientated lessons, pupils will be comparing quantities, including numbers, objects, fractions and mass before moving on to solving word problems. Next, we will learn some of the conventions of algebra in the context of patterns and real-life problems. This chapter ends with pupils using word problems to write equations with two unknown values solving a range of equations.
Science	**Year 5** Earth and Space - This unit is the only Astronomy related science unit in the primary science curriculum. The aim is to give children a basic overview of Earth and its place in our Solar System. In order to do this, children will also focus on the history of our Solar System – who said that the Earth the centre of our Solar System? Who proved them wrong? Following this, the children will be exploring day and night through the discovery of time zones around the world. Changes of Materials - This unit will look at different materials, their uses and their properties, as well as dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. The children will sort and classify objects according to their properties. They will explore the properties of materials to find the most suitable material for different purposes. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best thermal insulator to make a lunch box, making predictions and forming conclusions. **Year 6** **Evolution and Inheritance -** This unit builds on the children's learning from the Year 3 'Rocks' unit as well as the 'Animals including Humans' and 'Living Things and their Habitats' units. As such, it is important that children have the appropriate understanding of fossils, habitats and human development in order to grasp the concepts and ideas presented to them in these lessons. Our learning journey will begin by looking at 'Life on Earth' and looking at the vast changes to organisms over approximately 4 billion years. We will study 'The Fossil

	Hunter' Mary Anning and learn about her discoveries at a time when female scientists found it relatively difficult to get the acclaim and credit that their research deserved. The children will also learn about variation and adaptation. They will be able to explore how both Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace separately developed their theories of evolution. They will examine the scientific evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution. **Living Things and Their Habitats -** The children will take part in classification training, gaining credits along the way to gain their Classification Connoisseur qualification. We will look at decontextualised examples of classification and the use of a key. Then, when they have familiarised themselves with the use of a classification key, the pupils will look towards our school environment and create a key to classify leaves and/or living creatures. After some initial research, the children will discover Carl Linnaeus's system used to classify all living and use it to identify a range of organisms. The challenge culminates in designing new creatures that fit within the classification system.
Computing	This term, the children will begin by designing a newspaper template of their own on the publishing software Comic Life. The children will learn about design themes, appropriate proportion, word art and photo editing. This will link in with our writing unit from the autumn term revolving around the story, 'A Story Like the Wind'. We will revise our e-safety rules and guidelines whilst we look online for custom images to improve and customise the newspaper design. As publishers, we will then create a website. This unit introduces learners to the creation of websites for a chosen purpose. Learners identify what makes a good web page and use this information to design and evaluate their own website using Google Sites. Throughout the process learners pay specific attention to copyright and fair use of media, the aesthetics of the site, and navigation paths.
Art and Design and Technology	This term, we will immerse ourselves in the vibrant and expressive world of African Art. We will explore striking patterns and symbols, creating bold repeat designs using rich, powerful colours. As our confidence grows, we will investigate traditional tribal masks, uncovering their dramatic shapes, textures and meanings. We will then become sculptors, moulding and etching our own unique masks from air-dry clay. To complete the unit, we will bring our creations to life by painting them with vivid colours and detailed designs, celebrating creativity, culture and self-expression.
Humanities	Humanities will be centred on 'Our Angry Earth'. The children will learn about tectonic activity.

	The children will look at cause and consequence: ➢ How, where and why do these things occur? ➢ What are the short and long term impacts of tectonic hazards? ➢ What do people do to minimise their risk and disruption? We will use current case studies to support our geographical studies. As historians, we will explore the excavated site at Pompeii, Italy to gain a greater understanding of Roman life prior to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD and discover how historical sources can evidence the past, but also, in some cases, lead to misconceptions.
French	The children will get the opportunity to extend their vocabulary and research French customs and traditions. Children will build on their knowledge and understanding of the French language. This half term the learning will centre on 'Bon Voyage' and 'Transport'. The children will discover the names of different modes of transport and how travel will differ due to France being mainland Europe. Together, we will look at key phrases that could be used to navigate these modes of transport whilst in France. Next half term, we will be focusing on the 'Easter' theme. The children will look at Easter traditions in France compared with England. We will discuss one of the main French Easter traditions - the Easter bells or 'les cloches de Pâques'.
Music	The children will follow the 'Charanga' Scheme to explore music in class. During this time, the children will be learning a range of notes and songs. All of the learning in this unit is focused around one song: 'You've Got A Friend' by Carole King This is a six-week Unit of Work in which will use an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked Also, the children will be fortunate enough to benefit from weekly singing sessions.
Physical Education	The first half term will be This term in PE, we will be working with Mr Findlater, a veteran of indoor games and a passionate sporting enthusiast with a wealth of experience. He will introduce us to a variety of novel and engaging games, designed to be fun, fast-paced and inclusive. Through these activities, pupils will develop important transferable skills such as catching, throwing and coordination, while building confidence and teamwork. Each session will encourage enthusiasm, active participation and a love of movement, helping everyone grow as skilled and confident performers.

	The children will spend the second half term learning implement their skills within a variety of invasion games. In this unit, children will develop key skills and principles such as defending, attacking, throwing, catching, running and dodging.
RE	Our first half term will focus on Islam. Throughout this half term, we will explore how The Five Pillars link together, with a focus on Haji and the concept of pilgrimage. We will explore the Ummah and why this community is so important to Muslims. Our second half term will focus on Christianity. Throughout this half term, we will be focusing on Jesus and the events of Holy Week, with a focus on the importance of the Eucharist. We will discuss how Christian beliefs about Holy Week provide guidance and comfort during difficult times in their own life.
PSHE	Half term one will focus on 'Dreams and Goals'. The children will be able to discuss their dreams and goals – in school and outside of school - for the future. Furthermore, we will look at dissecting our goals, so that we can create stepping-stones to success. Together, we will take a look at the strength we have within us and how that will support our journey. Half term two will focus on 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind'. The children will look at ways in which they can help to manage their own wellbeing by looking at ways to support their own mental and emotional health. We will look at the risk of peer-pressure and how we can manage those situations effectively. This topic will be extremely important and poignant given that this cohort experienced 'Lockdown' conditions during their KS1 journey.