

ABINGDON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview
Year 5 Autumn Term
September - December 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
Meet the Form Tutor: Friday 11th September @ 18.00 Year 5 residential trip to PGL Liddington - Wednesday 30th September - Friday 2nd October Year 3-5 parents evening: Thursday 8th October Half-term begins: Friday 16th October (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 1st November JPA fireworks evening: Friday 6th November Year 5 Trip to Black Country Living Museum - Friday 13th November Year 3-5 Christmas Carol Service: Thursday 3rd December Term ends: Friday 11th December (12.00pm). PLEASE CONSULT THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL SCHOOL EVENTS APS school calendar	Pupils will learn about the school Code of Conduct, protected characteristics, diversity and inclusion and will learn what a stereotype is. They will learn the characteristics of healthy and respectful friendships and how to handle conflict sensitively. They will define behaviour that constitutes bullying, explore why children bully and learn strategies to deal with situations when bullying occurs. Pupils will explore the topic of wealth in a broader context than the traditional financial view and understand that various forms of wealth contribute to the wellbeing of themselves and others. In addition to weekly lessons, pupils will have a workshop to explore, in an age appropriate manner, consent within friendships and relations and develop their own skills in mental and physical relaxation in a wellbeing workshop
Mathematics	Science
This term the pupils in Year 5 will study the following topics: Place Value; Rounding & Properties of Number: They will read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1 000 000 and determine the value of each digit; round any number up to 1 000 000 to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10 000 and 100 000 and solve number problems and practical problems that involve all of the above. Addition/Subtraction: They will count forwards or backwards in steps of powers of 10 for any given number up to 1 000 000: add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digits, including using formal written methods (columnar addition and subtraction): add and subtract numbers mentally with increasingly large numbers; use rounding to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, levels of accuracy. Multiplication / Division: They will multiply numbers up to 4 digits by a one- or two-digit number using a formal written method, including long multiplication for two-digit numbers; divide numbers up to 4 digits by a one-digit number using the formal written method of short division and interpret remainders appropriately for the context; identify multiples and factors, including finding all factor pairs of a number, and common factors of two numbers; multiply and divide numbers mentally drawing upon known facts; recognise and use square numbers and cube numbers, and the notation for squared (2) and cubed (3) ; solve problems involving multiplication and division including using their knowledge of factors and multiples, squares and cubes. Shape, Space and Measures: The pupils will measure and calculate the perimeter of composite rectilinear shapes in centimetres and metres; calculate and compare the area of rectangles (including squares), and including using standard units, square centimetres (cm²) and square metres (m²) and estimate the area of irregular shapes. Statistics: The pupils will begin by recapping their understanding of how to interpret statistical data from charts and graphs, including how to calculate comparison, sum and difference problems. The pupils will then	This term Year 5 pupils will study the following topics: Properties and Changes in Materials: Pupils will learn about the properties of solids, liquids and gases. They will learn about the properties of mixtures, look at solutions and suspensions and experiment with dissolving and evaporation. The pupils will learn the difference between reversible and irreversible changes, providing examples of both and setting up investigations to separate mixtures and reverse processes, building on their understanding of The Water Cycle from Year 4. Skills: There will be a strong practical focus this term through a wide range of experiments. The pupils will develop their skills in following a method, taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision. They will also reinforce the need for fair testing. Earth and Space: The pupils will begin this unit and complete it next term. They will learn about the relationship between the moon, Earth and sun and how these create night and day and the seasons. The pupils will learn about the phases of the moon and the movement of the moon in relation to Earth. They will investigate sun shadows and how this can help determine time around the Earth. Shadows caused by the sun will be studied and sundials made. They will research the solar system and the relative size of planets. The pupils will learn simple facts about galaxies and that ours is called The Milky Way. They will investigate galaxies and constellations. They will undertake some investigations on gravity and be aware that gravity is important within our solar system.

English
The pupils in Year 5 will study the following skills & themes: Spelling: Pupils will study spelling patterns and rules as laid down in the Year 5 spelling guidance of the National Curriculum. This will include focusing on words with stressed and unstressed vowels; prefixes, suffixes; words with silent letters; particular letter strings and unusual words, including those with different origins. Punctuation and Grammar: Pupils will review correct use of basic punctuation (full stops, capital letters and commas), recap word classes, use tenses consistently, organise writing in paragraphs and learn to use modal verbs, adverbs of possibility and verb openers. Reading and Writing Fiction: The pupils' reading and writing activities this term will focus around the class novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. They will predict and generate plot overviews using key vocabulary from the story. The pupils will consider the protagonist's point of view by drafting diaries of their first day at Camp Green Lake, learning to write empathetically to show understanding of plot, character and themes. Non-fiction: The pupils will learn to write persuasive letters and non-chronological reports on the fictional Yellow Spotted Lizard featured in the book. Considering the historical context of outlaws in the story, the pupils will publish a news blog informing an audience of the scandalous story behind the infamous Kate Barlow. Poetry: As they focus on Space in Science towards the end of the term, they will study examples of Space-themed poetry. They will rewrite one poem as a narrative, focussing on detailed description and consider how setting impacts mood, as well as craft their own space-themed poems, exploring figurative language. Speaking and Listening: Most units will involve pupils taking part in paired or larger group discussions. Regular dictation will also form an integral part of the spelling programme.

	be introduced to line graphs, including how to draw line graphs and use them to solve problems.	
Geography	History	Theology, Philosophy, Ethics (TPE)
This term the pupils in Year 5 will be given the opportunity to develop their skills within each of the four strands of the National Curriculum: Locational knowledge; Place knowledge; Human and physical geography; and Geographical skills and fieldwork. Pupils will locate the major physical and human features of North America, including the USA, Canada, Mexico and other islands and nations within North America. Pupils will consider key physical features across North America and rank them in terms of tourism appeal, debating their choices. They will then use maps of the USA to closely analyse a range of data and make predictions based on what this shows us about life in the USA and describe and understand the major features of human and physical geography of North America. Pupils will study weather and climate across the region and learn to draw climate graphs. They will also explore key locations in New York on Google Streetview.	This term the pupils in Year 5 will investigate The Victorians. They will learn about the significance of the Victorian period within the wider narrative of British history. They will contrast everyday life during the Victorian period with modern British lifestyles. They will consider some of the major changes and their effects during this period, including the impact of the Industrial Revolution and the railways and consider different perspectives on these changes. They will study significant people and events during this period and become familiar with historical sources and accurate vocabulary relating to the Victorian period. Their work in the classroom will be supplemented by independent research in the form of prep tasks and a trip to the Milestones Museum in Basingstoke.	This term, Year 5 will begin their topic on Christianity. We will start with the topic of creation, focusing their discussions on the early stories in Genesis. The pupils will then consider the Christian understanding of God and gather a general understanding of the key themes and narrative of the Old and New Testament before analysing a prophecy from Isaiah about a coming Messiah. The pupils will consider what this Messiah would be like, what this means to Christians today and how these features are reflected within the accounts of the nativity in The Bible. The term is then finished with the pupils beginning their journey through the life of Jesus, returning regularly to Isaiah's prophecy to understand how a nomadic man who taught for three years is still so widely spoken about over 2,000 years later.
French	Computing	Drama
Pupils will focus on speaking, listening, reading and writing activities to extend their understanding of the language. Topics will be consolidated and new topics introduced including introductions, classroom objects, descriptions of where pupils live and family. Vocabulary, both oral and written will be extended and there will be a focus on grammar including 'avoir', agreement of colour adjectives and correct use of the definite and indefinite article and pluralising nouns. Pupils will also develop their understanding of French culture by learning about French artists and enjoying their own version of a visit to The Louvre at APS.	The pupils in Year 5 will study the following topics this term: Computing systems and networks: Systems and searching: Pupils will recognise IT systems around us and how they allow us to search the internet. Creating Media: Video production: They will plan, capture, and edit video to produce a short film.	The Impossible Performance Agency is a fast-paced and playful drama unit designed to revisit and strengthen key performance skills at the start of the academic year. Pupils become trainee agents completing a series of comic drama missions, each focused on a core skill such as freeze frames, voice, movement, characterisation, status, improvisation and ensemble work. The Mystery at Midnight Manor focuses on mystery, suspense and comic character-driven storytelling. Pupils explore how actors create atmosphere, build tension, develop suspicious characters, reveal clues and structure short scenes.
Art	Design and Technology (DT)	Music
The pupils in Year 5 will be exploring: Animals in Art. Artists: They will study the observational work of Hockney and his dog studies. They will progress to using paper mache to explore the work of James Cochrane, Abigail Brown and Photography from the National Geographic magazine. Observational Recording: Using photography and recording from life pupils will experiment sketching shapes, refining textures and shading. Sculpture: Using Modroc, pupils will create small 3D animal heads in the style of Cochrane and Brown. They will learn how to create an 'armature'.	CAM toys: The pupils will create a moving toy using a CAM system. Within this project pupils will work through the design process, paying particular attention to testing and adapting a design to ensure it functions well. The toys will be aimed at pupils in Pre-Prep as customers, who will test these as part of the evaluative process. Laser cut jigsaws: During this project pupils will be able to see how the laser cutter works to cut their own mini jigsaw puzzle and also use sublimation printing to heat press an image to the puzzle.	Groove Builders - In this energetic unit, pupils begin the year by developing their confidence as rhythmic performers, composers and ensemble musicians. Through practical body percussion, vocal rhythms and classroom percussion activities, they explore how short rhythmic ideas can be repeated, layered and combined to create an effective musical groove. Riffs, Hooks and Musical Codes - pupils develop their understanding of musical notation while exploring how composers create memorable musical ideas. Choir: Pupils will focus on being part of an ensemble and exploring part singing, working towards their first performance at Christmas
Games	Physical Education (PE)	Swimming
Football and rugby: Pupils will develop their skills and play small sided games; run with / without the ball; tackling, develop their positional play; and	The pupils in Year 5 will develop their skills in the following areas:	The pupils in Year 5 will refine their technique across the spectrum of strokes previously covered (front crawl,

learn the rules and basic principles of football. All of the pupils will participate in inter-house matches and/or inter-school matches. They will follow the Under 10 FA Continuum and U10 RFU framework.	Physical literacy: Pupils will learn how and why physical activity can benefit them both physically and mentally, whilst developing their fundamental movement skills. Badminton: Pupils will learn the basics of how to hit a shuttlecock, serving, the underarm and overarm clear, the drop-shot, the smash and the basic rules of the game.	backstroke and breaststroke. Pupils will also be introduced to the techniques required for butterfly and diving in preparation for galas and house competitions.
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