

Spittal School Year 5 - Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please encourage your child to read their reading book at least three times a week and complete their weekly homework tasks, including SPAG, comprehension and Timestables Rockstars. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact me.

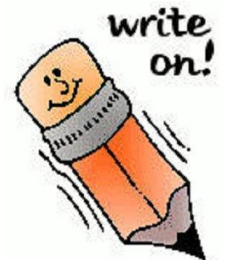
Yours faithfully Mr Moscrop

Literacy

This term, we will be studying two fantastic books:

Freedom Bird

The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger



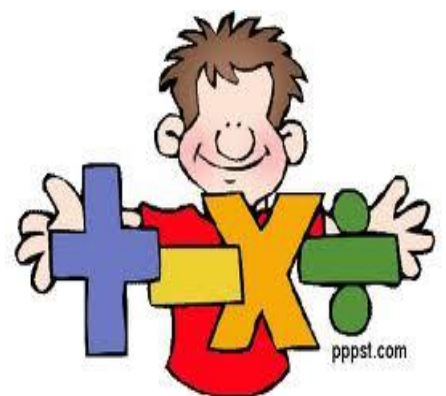
We will be working hard on developing both handwriting and the content of our writing. Our focus will also include improving spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Through these texts, children will be exploring a variety of writing styles including poetry, diary entry, formal letters, adverts, fact files and a letter of advice.

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will be exploring:

- Fractions
- Multiplication and division

We will also be tackling more challenging puzzles and problems to strengthen our reasoning and problem-solving skills.



Learning times tables remains a key priority, and I would be very grateful for your continued support in helping your child practise regularly at home. This will lay strong foundations as we look ahead to their Year 6 SATs.

Geography

This half term, Year 5 will continue exploring the amazing continent of North America! We will discover its diverse landscapes, from icy Canada to sunny Mexico, and learn about the different countries, cultures, and landmarks that make it so unique. Pupils will use maps, atlases, and digital tools to locate key features and compare life in North America with our own here in the UK.

History

In History, children will be starting our new topic 'Ancient Egyptians' with a direct focus on the enquiry question 'What made the Ancient Egyptians one of the most influential civilisations?'. This topic will investigate the River Nile's importance, daily life (farming, mud brick houses), pharaohs and rulers, key gods/goddesses (Ra, Anubis, Osiris), incredible achievements (pyramids, hieroglyphs), burial practices (mummification, afterlife beliefs), and famous figures like Tutankhamun, all within a chronological framework from the Old to New Kingdoms.

Science

In Science, Year 5 will continue investigating how living things depend on their habitats to survive. We will explore life cycles, adaptations, and how different environments support a variety of plants and animals. Pupils will take part in exciting classification activities and hands-on investigations to better understand the balance of nature and the importance of protecting our planet's ecosystems. Year 5 will then move on to our new topic called 'Properties of Materials' which will include various experiments.

Computing

We will begin the year by discussing the importance of online safety. Topics include:

- What is cyberbullying?



- What should we do if we or someone we know is experiencing it?

In addition, children will be introduced to Google Docs and Slides looking in particular at animation.

Physical Education

- PE will take place on Thursday mornings (Newcastle Foundation) and Friday afternoons (Hockey) – please ensure your child wears the correct PE kit. If so, can children bring to school a pair of shin pads and gum shield. If you have any problems with this, please contact Mr Moscrop.

January 2026