

Critical Pathway – Year 5 and 6

Autumn 1

2026-27

Subject	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Novel for reading	This term, we will journey into the exciting world of Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo, exploring themes of friendship, resilience and survival.						
Writing	In this unit, we will complete a diary writing unit based on Kensuke's Kingdom, exploring events from a character's perspective and developing our use of descriptive and emotive language.			In this unit, we will use Kensuke's Kingdom as inspiration for a balanced argument, learning how to present different viewpoints clearly and support our ideas with evidence.			
Spellings (class focus)	add the prefix anti meaning against	Homophones	'ough' as in bought	'ough' as in although	Silent letters	recap adding suffixes in, im or il to words to mean not	
Spellings (home)	Children will continue to work through their spelling lists. Each list consists of 5 new spellings; they will also be assessed on previous spellings. Spelling assessments take place on Fridays.						
Maths (Y6)	Place value			Decimals		Multiplication and Division	
Maths (Y5)	Place Value			Decimals		Geometry: properties of shapes	
Science	This term, pupils will investigate how living things are classified and grouped. They will learn how scientists identify and organise plants, animals and microorganisms, using classification keys and exploring the incredible diversity of life on Earth. Through practical activities, children will develop their scientific enquiry skills and deepen their understanding of the natural world.						
History	In History, we will explore how crime and punishment have changed over the last 800 years. Children will investigate medieval justice, discover what the legend of Robin Hood reveals about life in the Middle Ages, and examine how crimes, punishments and methods of catching criminals evolved from Tudor times to the present day.						

Computing	This term, pupils will explore how the internet helps people communicate and work together. They will learn how information travels online, understand the role of internet addresses, and investigate different ways of sharing information and collaborating digitally.
PSHE	In PSHE, children will develop the skills needed to build positive relationships, including teamwork, friendship, negotiation and compromise. They will also explore how people show commitment to one another, recognise different influences within peer groups, and learn how to respond appropriately to physical contact that makes them feel uncomfortable.
RE	In RE, we will explore different beliefs about God and consider why some people believe in God while others do not. Children will discuss a range of viewpoints, including religious and scientific perspectives, and reflect on how beliefs can influence the way people live their lives.
Art	This term, pupils will explore photography and digital art, developing their creativity and artistic skills. They will investigate architecture, create photomontages, experiment with abstract art, and learn how photographers make purposeful design choices to achieve different effects. Children will also recreate a famous painting using photography and apply their understanding of observation and proportion to produce photorealistic artwork.
French	This term, pupils will develop their confidence in speaking and listening to French. They will practise key French sounds to improve their pronunciation and learn vocabulary related to school life, including the names of different subjects. Children will also learn how to talk about their timetable, using days of the week and time phrases to explain when they study different subjects
Music	In this unit, pupils explore how composers use pitch, dynamics and texture to create musical effects inspired by the coast. They listen to and evaluate Mendelssohn's Fingal's Cave before improvising, composing and performing their own wave-themed pieces using voices, bodies and instruments.
PE	Pupils will develop their passing, receiving and movement skills while learning how to work effectively as part of a team. They will apply simple attacking and defending strategies in a range of invasion game activities.