Forces of the Vikings

Year 5 Athens and Rome Class
Autumn One Term 2026



Key Areas of Learning

As historians, we will learn about the Vikings, including where they came from and why they invaded Britain. They will explore important events and consider how these affected different groups of people. Pupils will also develop their skills in using historical sources to find evidence and make inferences, learn about Viking trade routes and their importance, and compare different Viking sagas. By the end of the unit, they will be able to assess the achievements and impact of the Vikings on Britain and beyond.

As scientists, pupils will explore forces, building on their learning from Year 3. They will investigate gravity, air and water resistance, friction, and how mechanisms such as levers, pulleys and gears can make forces more effective. Through a sequence of practical and challenging lessons, pupils will develop their scientific knowledge and apply it to real-world contexts and future careers.

English

As readers, we are learning the reading skills of making connections, prediction, visualisation, identifying important words and phrases, inference and explaining using evidence from the text. As writers, we will be using The Adventures of Dish and Spoon picture book as our writing stimulus to produce a range of writing: character descriptions, letters, news reports and a narrative innovating on the story.
We will also be developing our knowledge of DADWAVER openers to develop the effectiveness of our writing.
We will be working on using conjunctions noun phrases, extended noun phrases and apostrophes for contraction and possession, effectively, as well as consolidating our accuracy of punctuation learned in previous years. In spelling, we will be building on our knowledge of spelling patterns in line with the curriculum for Year 5 and learning other statutory words. We will also be consolidating previous year spelling.

Maths

During this unit, Year 5 pupils will develop their mathematical knowledge and reasoning through three key areas of learning from the Ark Curriculum Plus scheme. In Reasoning with Large Whole Numbers (Place Value), pupils will read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1,000,000, determine the value of each digit, and apply their understanding to solve problems. In Integer Addition and Subtraction, pupils will develop fluency with mental and written calculation methods, adding and subtracting increasingly complex whole numbers accurately and efficiently. They will use these skills to solve a range of reasoning and problem-solving tasks. In Line Graphs and Timetables, pupils will learn to interpret, draw and analyse line graphs, identify patterns and trends in data, and answer questions using timetables. Throughout the unit, pupils will explain their mathematical thinking, justify their methods and build confidence in applying mathematics across different contexts.

Computing

In computing, our unit introduces children to databases beyond branching databases. Children will create their own databases as well as query existing databases to find information that they are being asked for. By the end of the unit, children would have explored single and multiple table databases to solve problems.

PSHE

Jigsaw Puzzle Piece: Being Me in My World
We are learning to explore feelings linked to rewards and pride, reflect on our choices, and recognise emotions that can arise from consequences. By the end of the Puzzle, we will understand our role in creating a positive, respectful and safe school community.

PE

During PE lessons this term, Year 5 Rome class will complete Play Leader training, developing leadership, communication, organisation and teamwork skills through practical activities. Meanwhile, Athens class will focus on invasion games, improving tactical awareness, decision-making, passing, movement and play.

Art and DT

As creators, pupils will explore how gears and pulleys work and use these mechanisms to design and make their own products. They will develop skills in research, design and evaluation, creating an eco-gadget bike while considering user needs, sustainability and design criteria.

Religion and World Views

In this unit, pupils will explore religious beliefs, celebrations and freedom, considering how prejudice, bias and stereotypes can affect people. They will examine different viewpoints and think about ways to challenge prejudice and create positive change.

Music

As musicians Year 5 will be getting some external help from our new Music teacher and the children will start exploring instruments and learning to play the clarinet.

Spanish

In Spanish, we will be looking at how best to express and describe both ourselves and our school. Using new vocabulary and old vocabulary to help form grammatically correct sentences.

Experiences

Thursday 8th October- British Museum trip

Wednesday 14th October- Bayeux Tapestry virtual workshop

Whole School Events and Themes

15/09/26- 3.30pm Meet the Teacher
WB 21/09/26- Homework Starts
26/09/26- European Day of Languages
30/09/26- School Council/PTA - MacMillian Coffee Morning
20/10/26- PTA School Disco
Autumn Clubs Start- WB 7/09- Ends- WB 07/12

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