



Year 5

SPRING 1

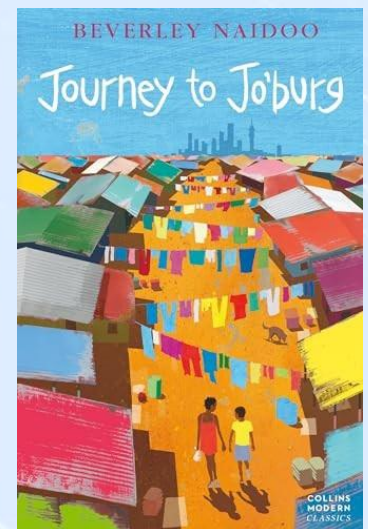
Cottingley
Village
Primary School



English

This half term, Year 5 will be exploring 'Journey to Jo'burg' by Beverley Naidoo, an inspiring story that follows two courageous children determined to save their sister. This text links closely with our history topic: Apartheid. We will be using the book to write diary entries from the perspectives of different characters, helping pupils to develop empathy, explore feelings, and write in role. Later in the term, the children will build on their research and non-fiction skills by writing a biography of Nelson Mandela, learning how to organise information, use formal language, and write with clarity and purpose.

Key text this half term



Maths



As Mathematicians, the children will be working to develop their fluency with written and mental method, strengthening reasoning skills through explanations and applying maths in practical, real-life problem-solving situations. This term's focus being the following:

Decimals and Percentages

- Understanding decimals to three decimal places
- Recognising decimals as fractions and relating them to place value
- Rounding, comparing, and ordering decimals
- Converting between decimals, fractions, and percentages

Measurement – Perimeter & Area (recap)

- Calculating perimeter of rectangles and composite shapes

Science

In Science, pupils will investigate a range of changes in materials, identifying which processes can be reversed (such as melting and freezing) and which are irreversible (such as burning or rusting). This hands-on unit deepens their understanding of the properties of materials through engaging experiments.

Spellings



Here are the spellings for Spring 1 to practice at home.

Please login to spelling shed and complete the assignments on a weekly basis.

Week 1: Words that are homophones

This Week's Words

aisle	aloud	altar	ascent	farther
isle	allowed	alter	assent	father

Week 2: Words that are homophones

This Week's Words

guessed	heard	morning	past	bridal
guest	herd	mourning	passed	bridle

Week 3: Words that are homophones or near homophones

This Week's Words

cereal	complement	principal	stationary	wary
serial	compliment	principle	stationery	weary

Week 4: Words that are homophones or near homophones

This Week's Words

affect	precede	draft	dessert	whose
effect	proceed	draught	desert	who's

Week 5: Words that are homophones or near homophones

This Week's Words

The Wider Curriculum



History – Apartheid

Children will learn about Apartheid in South Africa, exploring issues of fairness, equality, and human rights. Through key figures and events, they will consider the enquiry question: “Can one person make a difference in changing the world?” This unit encourages thoughtful discussion about justice and courage.

Design & Technology – Textiles

In DT, pupils will design and create their own comfort toy. They will explore how textiles can be joined, experiment with materials, and consider: “How can we design a toy that brings comfort?” This topic builds creativity, resilience, and practical making skills.

Computing – Data and Information (Flat-File Databases)

Children will investigate how information can be organised using databases. They will learn how data is stored, searched, and filtered, applying these skills to real-life scenarios.

RE – How Do Buddhists Live a Meaningful Life?

In RE, children will explore key Buddhist beliefs, such as the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. They will learn how Buddhists try to lead meaningful lives through mindfulness, kindness, and compassion, while reflecting on what brings meaning and purpose to their own lives.

PE – Gymnastics and Tennis

In Gymnastics, pupils will develop balance, control, and sequencing skills, learning to move confidently and safely when using apparatus.

In Tennis, they will practise hand–eye coordination, rallying, serving, and basic gameplay. Both units aim to build physical confidence, teamwork, and overall fitness.

Music – Sing Up

As a school we will begin using our new music scheme, *Sing Up*, which supports high-quality singing and musicianship. We will be developing our ability to perform, listen, review, and evaluate music across a range of styles, while building skills in singing, composing, and playing instruments.

Children will be encouraged to use their voices confidently, improvise and compose simple music, and appreciate how music is created and communicated.



PSHE - SCARF

This half term, we will be learning all about ‘Rights and Respect’. The children will identify, write and discuss issues currently in the media concerning health and wellbeing, understand what biased reporting is and the need to think critically about things we read, explore examples of voluntary groups, the kind of work they do and its value, and finally how to spend wisely.

Reminders

The children have PE Mondays and Tuesdays. Going forward, 5O will be going swimming so 5U will no longer need to bring swimming things to school.

Dates for your diary

Swimming Gala – **28th February**
World Book Day – **5th March**
Science Crest award at Bingley Grammar – **16th (5U) and 23rd (5O) March**
Parents’ Evening – **Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th March**
School Training Day – **20th March**
Eid Party – **25th March**
Class Photos – **26th March**
School closes for Easter – **27th March**