



## Year 5 Class Curriculum Letter - Summer Term 2026

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Below, you will find an outline of the topics that your child will be learning about in class over the coming term. In addition to providing you with an insight into the curriculum areas that will be covered until the end of the Summer term, it is hoped that this information will also assist in supporting your child's home learning activities.

### English

Throughout the term, pupils will continue to revise a variety of genres and writing styles such as descriptive writing, letter writing and balanced arguments. We will continue to explore punctuation and grammatical rules within both writing and grammar lessons. Spelling tests will also be held each Friday.

**Reading** continues to remain a vital part of your child's education. In class, your child will continue to develop their reading skills during whole class guided reading sessions, where we will focus on inference, deduction and comprehension skills. Children should be reading at home every evening and should be able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the texts that they are reading. Children should read a variety of texts across genres but they should also include a novel or chapter book. Children must record their reading in their reading records, at least three times each week. Your child's reading record should be signed regularly (at least three per week) to confirm that they are reading. Reading records will be checked on Fridays.

### Maths

During maths sessions this term, the children will cover a variety of topics including; transformations, converting units of measure, calculations involving whole numbers and decimals, 2D and 3D shapes and volume. As we move toward the end of Summer term we will begin to revise and consolidate learning completed throughout the year. The children will also have opportunities to apply knowledge from a range of topics to reason and problem solve.

### Religious Education

In RE this term, the children will be learning about the following topics:

#### **To the ends of the Earth**

In this unit, pupils will learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation, one of the three sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church. They will explore its roots in scripture, from the prophets to the Acts of the Apostles, and how it recalls the Holy Spirit descending at Pentecost. Pupils will understand that 'confirmation' means to be strengthened, as the sacrament deepens the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism. They will learn about the symbolism used in the sacrament, what takes place during the ceremony, and the role of the bishop as a successor of the Apostles. The sacrament links believers to the early Church and encourages them to live lives inspired by the Holy Spirit.

#### **Dialogue and Encounter**

In this unit, pupils will learn that the Bible is a collection of sacred texts written over time by authors inspired by the Holy Spirit. They will explore how Christians see the Bible as more than literature—it's a conversation between humanity and God, guided by the Church's interpretation. Pupils will also learn how Christians read the Old Testament in light of Jesus, while recognising that Jewish people understand these texts differently. As part of learning about Judaism, pupils will explore the significance of Hebrew, prayer, and sacred objects like the Torah and the Mezuzah, deepening their respect for different religious traditions.

## **Science**

### **Space**

Pupils will be taught to:

- Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies.
- Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system.

### **Living things and their habitats**

Pupils will be taught to:

- Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals

## **History**

### **How did the Benin Kingdom rise and why did it fall?**

In this unit, pupils explore the history of the Benin Kingdom, a powerful West African civilisation that flourished from around 900 to 1897 AD in what is now modern-day Nigeria. They will learn how the Edo people developed from small villages into a highly organised kingdom ruled by the Oba (king), with a strong military, rich culture, and famous bronze and ivory artwork. Pupils will examine Benin's rise to power, its contact with Portuguese traders, and the cultural and religious practices that shaped life in the kingdom. They will also investigate the causes of Benin's decline and the 1897 British invasion, using a range of sources — including oral stories, artefacts, and written accounts — to understand different perspectives.

## **Geography**

### **North America**

In this geography unit, pupils will explore the continent of North America. They will learn to identify its countries and regions, investigate a variety of climates, and explore famous physical and human features like the Grand Canyon and the Panama Canal. Pupils will also discover capital cities, understand time zones, and compare a North American region with a local area in the UK. Finally, they will carry out independent research on a North American country, using a range of sources to present what they have learned.

## **Computing**

### **Data Handling**

Pupils will learn about how the Mars Rover collects and sends data from space. They will explore different types of data it gathers, such as photos, and understand how this information is transmitted back to Earth, including the challenges involved. Pupils will also develop their understanding of binary numbers—learning to read binary up to eight bits. They will explore how input, processing, and output work on the Mars Rover, linking real-world space exploration to digital systems.

### **Online Safety**

In this computing unit on online safety, pupils will learn what bullying is and how it can happen both online and offline. They will explore how using the internet can affect their health and well-being, both positively and negatively. Pupils will also learn how to recognise these effects and will develop practical tips and advice to help them stay safe, respectful, and balanced in their online lives.

## **DT**

The children will be learning about textiles in order to design and create a square for a patchwork quilt.

## **Art**

The children will be learning about printmaking through the work of artists such as Rembrandt, Hogarth, Hokusai and Warhol. They will have the opportunity to explore mono-printing and screen printing.

## **Music**

Year 5 students focus on ensemble performance within the realm of classical music. This unit aligns with the curriculum's emphasis on collaborative music-making. Pupils expand their ensemble skills, understanding the intricacies of performing as a group. This development prepares them for more advanced ensemble notation and performance tasks in the future. Children will be able to play a melody following staff notation written on one stave and using notes within an octave range (do-do; and wider in some parts of this SOW).

They will sing a broad range of songs (play pieces) from an extended repertoire with a sense of ensemble and performance, observing phrasing, accurate pitching, and style.

## **Spanish**

### **School Life**

In this unit, children learn to talk about school activities using visuals and sentence builders to support vocabulary and verb structures (e.g. "Do you like...?", "We are going to...", "I don't like...", "We do..."). Irregular verbs and common misconceptions are taught explicitly, alongside time vocabulary (days, months, seasons), opinions, and reasons. By the end, pupils should confidently ask and answer simple questions in a peer interview.

### **Let's Travel Through History**

In this unit, children use their Spanish knowledge to explore key aspects of Spanish history while extending their understanding of numbers up to 1,999. They study significant artworks and historical events, including Columbus's voyage and the Spanish Civil War, while revisiting familiar vocabulary and identifying dates. They are also introduced to the past tense and apply their learning to describe the life of Carmen Amaya, a famous flamenco dancer.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

Pupils will have coached sessions where they will partake in athletics. PE will take place every Friday and children are expected to arrive at school wearing their full St Charles PE kit on this day.

## **PSHE**

The children will be exploring the topics:

- Created to live in the Community
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Self-respect and personal goals
- Working together and aspirations
- Money (being a responsible citizen)

## **Homework**

As a reminder, homework will generally be as follows:

Monday	Spellings (to be handed in on Friday)
Tuesday	Maths (to be handed in by Thursday)
Friday	English + any Topic work (to complete over the weekend)

Homework will be explained to your child in class. In addition to set homework, children will be asked to complete any unfinished class work at home.

## **Stationery**

Where possible, please ensure your child has their own pencil case containing: pencils, a rubber, a sharpener, coloured pencils, a ruler and a glue stick. Children should also bring a clearly labelled water bottle to school each day.

All classes have a unique email address where you can contact the class teacher.

This is not for informing the school of absence; the main office must be contacted in that instance.

If you have any general questions or queries, please contact me directly via the class email address

([5h@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:5h@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk)) and I will endeavour to reply (during school hours) as soon as possible. However, if you have an **urgent** concern, please phone the school office directly. Please note that the class email is not for informing the school of absence; the main office must be contacted in that instance.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks and appreciation to you for your continued support and I look forward to working with both you and your child for a successful Summer term.

Warmest Wishes,

Miss L. Hanley  
5H Class Teacher