# Christmas Term 2026 Curriculum Plan: Year 5

## English

Year 5 will be studying Michael Morpurgo's retelling of 'Beowulf', using the text as inspiration to write their own fantasy narratives. They will develop their descriptive writing skills, focusing on creating engaging characters, vivid settings and an atmosphere that builds tension and captures the reader's imagination. Through exploring language choices, descriptive techniques and effective sentence structures, children will learn to craft suspenseful and imaginative narratives.

## Maths

As mathematicians, children will develop their fluency and confidence in multiplication and division, working with increasingly complex calculations and applying efficient strategies. They will also explore fractions, including identifying equivalent fractions, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers, and adding and subtracting fractions. Throughout the unit, children will apply their understanding to solve problems, explain their reasoning and make connections between mathematical concepts.

## Science

As scientists, children will embark on an exciting journey through space, exploring the wonders of our solar system and discovering the fascinating worlds beyond Earth. They will investigate the unique characteristics of each planet, explore the Moon and its relationship with Earth, and uncover how celestial bodies move through space. Through research, observation and scientific enquiry, children will develop their understanding of our place in the universe and the extraordinary scale and diversity of space.

## Computing

As digital creators, children will develop their skills in capturing, editing and manipulating video to produce engaging short films. Working collaboratively, they will explore how to combine clips, trim footage, add transitions, incorporate titles and sound, and use editing techniques to communicate ideas effectively.

## Geography

As geographers, children will explore the world's mountains, locating the Seven Summits and the UK's highest peaks. They will investigate how mountains form, their key features and climates, and how people live in mountainous regions, including the importance of the Himalayas to local communities.

## DT

As designers and toy makers, Year 5 will bring mechanisms to life just in time for Christmas! They will explore gears, levers and other moving parts before designing and creating their own moving toys. Through hands-on making and problem-solving, they will develop their creativity and practical skills to produce a toy that is ready to delight its user.

## PSHE

As responsible citizens, children will explore what it means to live in a diverse Britain and how they can make a positive contribution to their community. They will consider the importance of laws, why they exist and the consequences of not respecting them, developing an understanding of their rights, responsibilities and role in society.

## RE

*How does sacred text help Hindus understand Dharma?*

As theologians, children will explore how Hindu sacred texts, including stories from the Ramayana and teachings from the Bhagavad Gita, help Hindus understand Dharma — their duties, responsibilities and the importance of living a moral life. They will consider how these teachings guide Hindus in making choices and deciding how to treat others.

## Music

As musicians, children will learn and perform a range of traditional and modern Christmas songs and carols from around the world, including Do You Hear What I Hear? and Carol of the Bells. They will explore different musical styles, languages and traditions while developing their singing and performance skills.

## PE

This term, children will develop their gymnastics skills through more complex balances, rolls, jumps and sequences, focusing on control, precision and fluency. They will explore matching, mirroring and canon to create and perform challenging routines, evaluating performances and using constructive feedback to improve their work.

## Spanish

As linguists, children will learn the months of the year in Spanish, asking and answering questions about the date and birthdays. They will also explore Christmas vocabulary and traditions in Spanish-speaking countries, developing their confidence in speaking and understanding the language.

## Reminders

- Library books will be changed on Tuesdays.
- PE will take place on Thursday mornings.
- 16th November - Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying Week)
- 25th-27th November – Hilltop residential trip
- 30th November – Christmas craft afternoon
- 9th December – Christmas lunch