Cedar Park School & Nursery

Be kind ★ Be inspired ★ Believe

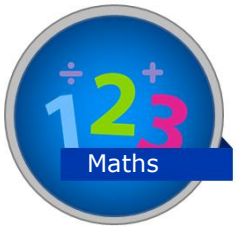
Year 5 Curriculum News

AUTUMN TERM 2026 - 2027



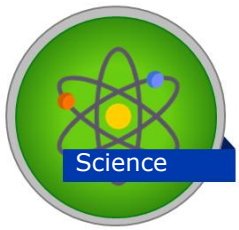
English

In English, we are continuing our scheme to help teach writing – Read to Write. Each half term we will use a different book to help drive our writing lesson, which we will refer to as the Vehicle Text. Our Vehicle Texts for Autumn term will be 'Curiosity' and 'FArTHER'. To start the year, we will be looking at the facts and events behind the Apollo astronauts who walked on the Moon and a journey undertaken by a Mars Rover. Our writing will focus on the skills of: formal language, adverbials and dashes. Finally, we will be inspired to write a formal report. After half term we will be reading an award-winning fantasy picture book called 'FArTHER'. Through this fiction book we will continue to explore formal and informal language as well as using a variety of punctuation for parenthesis. Our writers will have the chance to write imaginative setting descriptions as well as a formal letter. Alongside writing lessons, the children will have daily whole-class guided reading sessions where they will be immersed in a selection of high-quality texts with the aim of supporting their reading comprehension skills. We will be following the VIPERS scheme, focusing on different skills each week but always beginning with vocabulary as our foundation.



Maths

Using our Power Maths scheme, we will be looking at the importance of place value to 100,000, considering how to represent a number in different contexts, using mastery to deepen our understanding. This is to ensure the children have a strong understanding of how a number is formed and how it is integrated within the number system. We will also be looking at mental addition and subtraction facts, moving onto formal written methods. The children will explore these operations within multi-step word problems too. We will be exploring the use of tables and line graphs to help interpret and answer questions, and measuring area and perimeter of various shapes. Finally, we will move on to some mental multiplication and division before then tackling formal methods for those. Times tables improved greatly last year so please continue to work on these at home, looking at quick recall, inverses and applying them to real life problems.



Science

In Science, we will be starting our exciting new Developing Experts topic. We will focus on Earth and Space during the first half term, learning about the structure of the Solar System and considering how phenomena such as night and day can be explained. In the second half of the term, our topic will be Properties of Materials. Children will have lots of opportunities for experimentation, sorting different materials according to their properties in a variety of ways. They will also learn about dissolving, mixing and separating materials.



Topic

Our Topic for the Autumn term will be the Vikings. We will develop our knowledge and understanding of Viking culture, lifestyle, beliefs and society, exploring how Viking communities lived, travelled, traded and settled. We will learn about famous Viking figures and investigate a range of historical sources, including artefacts, written accounts and archaeological evidence, to develop our skills as historians and become 'Viking experts'. In Geography, we will become 'local area experts', exploring the physical and human features of our local environment and developing our understanding of how places are organised and change over time. We will use maps, fieldwork, photographs and geographical data to investigate our local area, identify patterns and features, and develop our skills in geographical enquiry. Through both subjects, we will become confident in asking questions, gathering evidence and using what we discover to deepen our understanding of the world around us.



Additional Information

PE lessons will take place every Wednesday, with swimming sessions on Thursday mornings. In September, the children will also take part in Bikeability, a valuable programme designed to develop their road safety awareness and build confidence on their bikes.
Later in the term, we are very excited to be heading out on a school trip to Ufton Court, to live like a Viking for the day!
Mrs Almrott and Mrs Haque