Cedar Park School & Nursery

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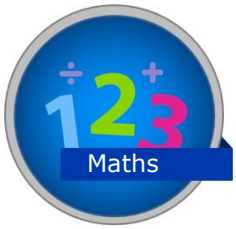
Year 5 Curriculum News

AUTUMN TERM 2025-2026



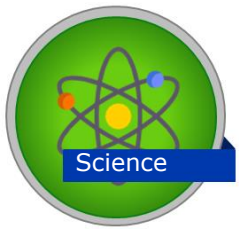
English

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 'Where Once We Stood' and 'FArTHER'. To start the year, we will be looking at the facts and events behind the Apollo astronauts who walked on the Moon (Where Once We Stood). 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 (extra information). Our budding 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 Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We will look at the culture, lifestyle and religion of the people during these times. As well as this we will explore famous kings from this period and understand more about the site of Sutton Hoo in Suffolk and the connections it has to those times. This will lead us to think about the role of an archaeologist and how sites like this can give us clues about historical events. We will explore how different groups of people invaded and settled in the British Isles during the several hundred-year period after the Romans left. Our key question for the first half term will be "Was the Anglo-Saxon period really a Dark Age?" and we will explore historical sources of evidence about the Vikings in Britain during the second half term.



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