

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Defeating a Monster Tale: Beowulf Your child will be looking at a shortened version of Beowulf to internalise the structure of the plot and an embellished version to expose the children to a higher level of vocabulary and description. We will be using this as a stimulus to investigate how authors achieve characterisation in stories, both through the characters of Grendel and Beowulf. We will then use this to write the next part of Beowulf, in which Beowulf defeats Grendel's mother.</p> <p>Discussion Text: Is Beowulf a Hero? Your child will be looking at a discussion text this half-term. We will be engaging in debates and how we present our thoughts in a clear way for a reader. We will also be using connectives to coherently structure our ideas and using a variety of model texts to analyse what makes an effective discussion text.</p>
	<p>Continue adding to your glossary of interesting words and phrases you find. Remember, at Floreat we have a 'magpie wall', which we use to store shiny words that the children like so that they can use them again later. Encourage your children to steal vocabulary that shines!</p>
	Writing
<p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Letters should be of a consistent size. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.</p>	
Reading	<p>Whole Class Reading This term your child will be reading <i>Shackleton's Journey</i>. The text will be used to develop the children's vocabulary; abilities to infer, predict and explain; and the skills of sequencing and summarising a text. Children will also have opportunities to role play and perform in character and develop their research skills.</p>
	<p>Please support by correcting spellings while your child is doing their Home Learning. At Floreat, we are direct when giving feedback e.g. a child spells the word 'accident' with an a > accidAnt, we say "In this word the sound is represented with an 'e'."</p> <p>Read with your child as often as possible! Discuss their understanding of the text with them and encourage them to reference the text as they explain. Ask your child to summarise what they are reading.</p>
Mathematics	<p>This term we will complete our learning on multiplying whole numbers and fractions. Pupils will be using their knowledge of finding a unit or non-unit fraction to then calculate the whole amount. Then, pupils will move onto finding equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions, where pupils will learn that equivalent fractions have different numerators and denominators but still share the same numerical value and that these can be generated by maintaining that relationship through multiplication and division. Finally, Year 5 pupils will move onto linking fractions, decimals and percentages which will draw upon both prior learning and new learning. This will, as always, support our school wide offer of maths mastery.</p>
	<p>You could support at home by asking your child questions about their maths learning. For example, prove that... what if... If this equals...what might this equal? If we know that...what else do we know?</p>

	Your child must also be confident in recalling multiplication facts, including the related division facts up to 12x12.
Knowledge	<p>Science – Year 5 pupils will focus on astronomy including The Big Bang and the expanding universe, gravity, our Solar System and our Galactic neighbourhood.</p> <p>History – We are learning about The Industrial Revolution. In particular, we will study cotton production, steam engines and trains, iron and coal and children at work during the industrial revolution.</p> <p>Geography – Our focus is New Zealand and the South Pacific. Within this topic, we will study the location and physical geography of New Zealand, the history of New Zealand, climates, biomes and animals and the South Pacific Islands.</p> <p>Art – In Art this term, your child will be learning all about print making. This will include; the different formats of print making, the stencil process, relief printing and intaglio screen printing.</p>
	You can support your child at home by questioning them about the areas we are studying this half-term and encouraging them to read widely around them too. Any additional knowledge that your child brings to the classroom will be duly celebrated!
Character and PSHE (Jigsaw)	<p>This half term, Year 5 will be focusing on our character virtues of Love and Kindness, Forgiveness and Perseverance. We will be honing in particular aspects of these virtues, namely Courtesy and Determination. We will engage in class discussions on these concepts and our certificates will be rewarded to those children who demonstrate consistent practice of these virtues.</p>
	In Jigsaw (PSHE) this term, we will be looking at the topic 'Relationships'. Within this topic, we will look at: recognizing me, safety with online communities, being in online communities, online gaming and developing a healthy relationship with technology.
	In terms of developing your child's character, really question them. For example, this half-term, challenge your child's judgements – make them reason as to why they make the judgements they do and help to illuminate different perspectives.
Music	Year 5's Music learning this term is focused around one song: "Dancing In The Street" by Martha And The Vandellas. As well as learning how to perform this song, we will listen to and appraise songs of a similar era and genre to express our thoughts and reflections on these pieces.
	You can support your children by exposing them to a variety of music and discussing its features.
Computing	This term, Year 5 children will be continuing to learn how to code using Scratch. We will be looking at the subject-specific vocabulary of sprite and backdrop and learning how to sequence elements of coding to achieve an effect. We will then be starting to investigate how to use algorithms to create quizzes.
Spanish	This term, Year 5 children will be learning how to repeat, recognize and attempt to spell the eight nouns (including the correct article) for pets in Spanish. They will learn how to tell somebody if they have or do not have a pet in Spanish, ask somebody else if they have a pet, tell somebody the name of their pet and start to create a longer phrase using the connectives y (and) or pero (but).
P.E. and Dance	This half term, Year 5 children will be focusing on Athletics during PE in preparation for their Sports Day. These events are Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, Javelin, Discus, Running Races and an Obstacle Course. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their skills.
	Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE day. Children will not be getting changed at school until further notice.

General reminder – Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat in school every day so that they can play outside come rain or shine. As we know, the weather in England can change very rapidly! All blazers, coats and PE kits must be clearly named.