

## English

This half term in English we wrote **persuasive speeches** about improving our school, using **modal verbs** such as *should*, *must* and *could* to strengthen our arguments. We also included **subordinate clauses** to explain our ideas in more detail, for example *Although our school is great, we must make it even better*. Later, we created our own **dark, twisted fairy tales**, adding **relative clauses** to describe characters and settings, and developing **advancing dialogue** that revealed thoughts, motives and tension. By the end, we could adapt our writing style confidently across both persuasive and narrative genres.

## History / Geography

This half term we **continued exploring the Anglo-Saxons**, building on our understanding of who they were and why they settled in Britain. We learned more about their kingdoms, how villages were organised and what daily life was like for farmers, warriors and craftworkers. We studied their beliefs, including pagan traditions and the spread of Christianity, and examined artefacts to understand their culture. We also revisited their conflicts with the Vikings, exploring how raids and invasions affected Anglo-Saxon rule. By the end, we had a clearer picture of how their society developed and how they shaped early British history.

## PE

This half term in P.E. we focused on rounders, developing our striking and fielding skills. We practised accurate batting, aiming for space and timing our swings. In the field, we improved our throwing, catching and teamwork to stop runs quickly. Everyone worked on positioning, communication and making smart tactical choices during play.

# Year Five

## What are we learning about this half term?

### Computing

This half term in Computing we developed our own games on Purple Mash, designing characters, settings and challenges. We created algorithms to control movement, added scoring systems and debugged errors to improve gameplay. We tested each other's games, gave feedback and refined our designs to make them fun, clear and playable.

### RE

This half term in R.E. we explored what could make Sandwell a more respectful community. We discussed treating others fairly, celebrating different cultures, listening to people's views and helping those in need. We learned that small actions—kindness, cooperation and understanding—can make our community safer, stronger and more welcoming for everyone.

### Design & Technology

This half term in D&T we learned how to make a **healthy fajita meal** preparing vegetables safely and seasoning chicken with care. We focused on balanced ingredients, hygienic cooking and following step-by-step instructions. Everyone practised chopping, mixing and assembling their wraps to create a nutritious, colourful dish.

### Maths

This half term in Maths we focused on **geometry**, starting with different types of **angles**. We learned how to identify acute, obtuse, right and reflex angles, and used protractors to measure and draw them accurately. We then moved on to **position and direction**, using coordinates in all four quadrants and plotting points to create shapes. We practised describing movements using mathematical vocabulary such as *translate*, *reflect* and *rotate*, and explained how shapes changed or stayed the same. By the end of the unit, we were more confident reasoning about angles and using precise language to describe position and direction.



### Science

This half term in Science we learned about the human life cycle, exploring how people grow and change from infancy to old age. We studied key stages such as childhood, adolescence and adulthood, and discussed physical and emotional changes. We used diagrams and vocabulary to explain each stage clearly and accurately.

### Music

This half term in Music we learned how to play the keyboard, practising hand position, simple melodies and steady rhythms. We explored different instrument sounds, followed notation and kept in time with a backing track. Everyone worked on accuracy, control and confidence when performing short pieces to the class.