

Hedgehog Class April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to term 5 and we hope you have had a restful break.

Topic

This term, we will be starting our new topic: Ancient Civilisations. Your child will learn about different ancient civilisations including: Ancient Sumer, Ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation.

During Term 5, your child will learn about the development of Ancient Sumer, food and farming, inventions, hierarchy and the world's first emperor. During Term 6, your child will learn about life in Ancient Egypt and what city life was like. They will also learn about Egyptian hierarchy and the role of the Pharaoh. They will conclude the topic by comparing the Ancient Sumer and Egyptian civilisations and use this knowledge to answer the question: 'How was the Indus Valley civilisation similar to or different from the ancient Sumerian and ancient Egyptian civilisations?'

English

In English, your child will be reading the class novel 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll and answering comprehension questions linked to this. In Term 5, your child will be learning about the Ancient Sumerian Temple Hymns and using this knowledge to write their own using free verse poetry. In addition, they will use this knowledge to create information writing about Sumerian gods. In Term 6, your child will be creating instructions linked to mummification in Ancient Egypt. They will also be writing stories linked to Ancient Egypt. When learning about grammar and punctuation in Term 5, they will learn about prepositions, paragraphs and time conjunctions. In Term 6, they will learn about homophones, place and cause conjunctions and editing. Your child will also have daily spelling/ phonics lessons and continue to work on EdShed in school and at home.

Maths

During Term 5, your child will be learning about decimals including tenths and hundredths. They will then move on to dividing a whole number by ten and one hundred. They will then be learning about money including converting pounds and pence and adding and subtracting money. Next, they will learn about time and how to tell the time to the minute as well as reading a digital clock and becoming confident with the use of time vocabulary i.e. days, months, years.

In term 6, your child will learn about shape including, angles, shape symmetry and how to accurately draw 2D shapes. They will then move on to learning about statistics, how to interpret charts and graphs. Finally, in year 4, your child will learn about position and direction. They will be able to interpret coordinates and draw shapes on a grid, and then translate on a grid.

Science

During Terms 5&6, your child will be learning about Electrical Circuits and Conductors. They will begin by learning about electrical components and how to make and fix series circuits. They will learn about conductive and non-conductive materials and research light bulbs, switches and plugs. They will use their developing knowledge to begin to understand programming. They will finally use their knowledge and understanding to work on a Science project to design a nightlight.

RE

In Term 5 and 6, our learning question will be: “What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?” Your child will learn about how Hindus show their faith and their beliefs in God. They will then consider how what life is like for Hindus in Britain.

ICT

In term 5 your child will be creating media. They will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. They will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.

In term 6, your child will learn about programming and repetition in games. They look at the difference between count-controlled and infinite loops, and use their knowledge to modify existing animations and games using repetition.

PSHE

In term 5 your child will cover the topic “Relationships” Here they will learn how to deal with jealousy, love and loss, memories, getting on and falling out, and finally understanding the meaning of having a boyfriend or girlfriend when they are older.

In term 6, your child will be covering the topic “Changing Me”. They look at how babies grow, outside and inside body changes, family stereotypes and finally looking ahead at what is to come for year 5.

Reading and Home Learning

Your child will receive a reading book in accordance with their ZPD. It is important that your child reads daily so that they are able to make as much progress as possible. Please fill their reading record in at home to show the reading your child has completed. Do let us know if they have enjoyed the book. We do also like hearing about any other books they have been reading at home.

Your child will also receive home learning weekly. Please complete each week in their home learning book or feel free to email it to me. Home learning will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be returned the following Wednesday.

I also encourage your child to log on and complete their Timestable Rockstars and EdShed activities at home as well as at school. This continuous practise is beginning to show good progress. Log in details should be found in homework books or reading records.

P.E.

This term, PE will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit (fully white t-shirt, fully black shorts/jogging bottoms and plimsolls/fully black trainers) in school so that they can fully participate in the lessons. As the weather hopefully becomes much warmer, PE lessons will be taking place outside. No earrings are allowed to be worn during P.E. lessons, therefore they need to be able to take them out themselves, or have them taken out in the morning before school.

Thank you for your continued support. If you need to contact me at any point, please email me at t.donoghue@teynham.kent.sch.uk

Kind regards,
Miss Donoghue
Year 4 Class Teacher