



**COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

Countess Gytha Primary School Curriculum Information

Class/Year

Y4/Y5

Term

Spring 2025

Dear Parents

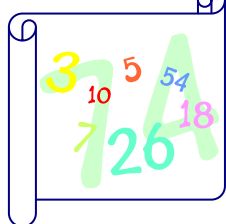
This letter is designed to provide key information about learning this term.

SUBJECT	CONTENT
English	In English we will be linking our writing (where appropriate) with our topic this term, 'Volcanoes & Earthquakes'. The children will be using their developing knowledge of these natural disasters to write a variety of genres/text types; explanation and instructional texts, diary writing, stories with historical settings, non-chronological reports, dilemma stories and poems with structure. Our class reading books for this term are 'The Secret of Vesuvius' by Caroline Lawrence, which is a 'mystery style' book set during the Mount Vesuvius eruption and 'The Somerset Tsunami' by Emma Carroll. The children will continue to consolidate their reading strategies and comprehension of a variety of texts and answer questions based upon them. We will also continue to consolidate previous learning and broaden the children's understanding and use of grammatical techniques and devices.
Maths	In maths, the children will be developing their knowledge of negative numbers and interpreting them in context. We will be learning to identify multiples and use factor pairs leading to finding common factors of two numbers. We will count in multiples of 6,7,9, 25 and 1,000 and Year 5's will develop their knowledge of square and cube numbers. We will spend time growing confident when working with fractions including; finding equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering fractions, adding and subtracting fractions. We will then link our work with fractions to extend our knowledge of decimal numbers. In non-number work, the children will be classifying and comparing 2D (Year 4) and 3D (Year 5) shapes, measuring angles and completing symmetrical shapes and patterns.
Science	In science, we will complete our study of 'Animals, including humans' where the children will investigate the development of babies and compare the gestation period of humans and other animals. Later this term, the children will learn about living things in their habitat. They will learn how to classify organisms and understand how animals have adapted to suit their environments. They will create their own classification keys.
Computing	To understand computer networks, including the Internet; how they can provide multiple services such as the World Wide Web and the opportunities that they offer communication and collaboration. To use search technologies effectively, appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content.
Geography	This term, we will study 'Natural disasters', starting by developing an understanding of how what lies beneath the Earth's crust causes some natural disasters. We will research and locate famous volcanoes on a world map and consider why people would choose to live near a volcano. We will then learn about the causes of Earthquakes, consider the 'Ring of Fire' and locate Earthquakes using latitude and longitude. We will complete our studies of natural disasters by taking a brief look at tsunamis, hurricanes and tornadoes and finally floods.
History	Our history will be integrated with the geography topic this term. We will look at key historical events in connection with the natural disasters studied in our geography including a specific focus on the volcano, Mount Vesuvius, learning about the eruption of 79AD in which the nearby city of Pompeii was destroyed. We will also look at the Haiti earthquake in 2010, the Indonesia tsunami on Boxing Day 2004 and floods around the world, as well as those local to us.
RE	We will complete our study of how Christian belief in incarnation is reflected in Bible accounts. Then, throughout the rest of the term we will be learning about the key beliefs in Hinduism of Dharma and Deity including; Holi festival, the Holika story, the Law of Karma, Hindu books called the Vedas, Brahman and the symbol, Aum.
PSHE	This term, the children will be exploring relationships as well as rights and responsibilities. They will consider scenarios and discuss and share their thoughts and feelings about these, respecting one another's opinions.
Music	To start the term, we will be focusing on one song: 'Happy' a Pop song by Pharrell Williams through using games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments. Later in the term, the children will be learning the glockenspiel developing playing skills with the notes C,D E F & G through a variety of mixed styles of music.
D & T & ART	Using Lego EV3 kits, children will learn to apply understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures; to understand and use mechanical systems (such as cams, levers and linkages); to apply understanding of computing to program, monitor and control products.
PE	The children will continue to develop their confidence, skills and ability in a range of invasion games such as netball and basketball. This term, the children will be experiencing the art of 'Yoga' through developing and learning techniques of flexibility and strengthening of their muscles and core.
MFL	The children will be acquiring a proficiency in day-to-day French words and phrases. They will be learning enhancing their conversation skills, singing songs and using a variety of interactive activities.

Happy New Year!

Welcome back Excalibur Class! We are starting off the New Year with a 'bang' with our topic this term being 'Natural Disasters' which will include looking at erupting volcanoes...look out for news later this term of a volcano day, when the children will create volcanoes and then use chemicals (safely) to create an eruption! The Spring Term will continue to be split between both Mrs Trusson and Mr Gordon as follows: Mrs Trusson Monday-Thursday and Mr Gordon—Friday. The other members of our team this year are Mrs Elsworth (TA), Mrs Collins (HLTA) and Mrs Hills (1:1)

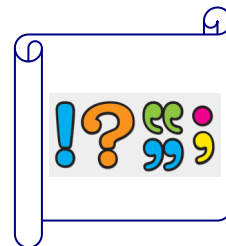
Homework



MATHEMATICS

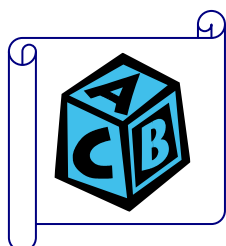
One page of Maths homework will go home (in the form of a CGP Booklet) on a Wednesday reinforcing the work done in school during the previous week. This is to be brought in the following Tuesday please. If you are unsure, due dates will always be recorded in the front of the book.

On-going practice of all times tables - Mental Maths Olympics Sheets will be sent home regularly



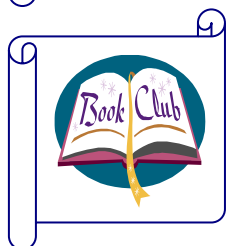
SPaG (Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation)

One page of SPaG homework will go home (in the form of a CGP Booklet) on a Wednesday reinforcing work done in school. This is to be brought in the following Tuesday please. If you are unsure, due dates will always be recorded in the front of the book.



SPELLING

Spellings will be sent home each Wednesday and returned the following Tuesday, in preparation for a spelling test.
There will be a variety of spellings related to strategies being taught.



READING

Regular reading at home is encouraged. Ideally 5 times a week for 10 minutes to an adult preferably. Those children not completing reading at home will join a lunchtime reading club to allow them time to engage with their reading book.

We ask that reading records and reading books are in school every day as we will hear them read once a week.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- ◆ PE kits are to be in school at all times. Indoor PE: navy shorts, white polo shirt and plimsolls/trainers. Outdoor PE: your child may require Navy tracksuit trousers and jumper.
- ◆ Please could all belongings be clearly named.
- ◆ It would be useful if all children could have a suitable piece of clothing that they could wear to get messy in Art and DT. This may be an apron or old shirt.