What We Are Learning This Week in Year 5

(Week Commencing 23rd November 2026)

English

This week, we'll continue exploring The Adventures of Odysseus in our English and guided reading lessons. The children will discuss how characters respond to different situations and use evidence from the text to support their ideas. Our grammar focus will be on recognising and using a consistent tense in our writing. The children will also develop their own quest stories, drawing on what they've learnt about figurative language, prepositional phrases, dialogue and relative clauses.

Things to do at home:

To support your child's learning, you might enjoy discussing some of the following questions together:

1. What happened in the story you read this week? Can you tell me about a part that stood out to you?
2. How did one of the characters feel and what clues in the story helped you work that out?
3. If you could invent a hero for an adventure story, who would they be and what challenge would they face?
4. Where would your adventure begin? What might your hero see, hear or feel there?
5. Can you tell me something that happened today? Which words show that it has already happened?

This week's spellings:

This week we are focusing on words ending in **-able**.
The suffix **-able** often means **"can be".** For example, if a coat is **washable**, it **can be washed.**

This week's spelling can be found below.

1. adorable
2. adorably
3. adoration
4. applicable
5. applicably
6. application
7. considerable
8. considerably
9. consideration

Maths

This week in maths, we'll return to our work on fractions. The children will practise adding fractions that total more than one whole, then build on this by adding a fraction to a mixed number and adding two mixed numbers together.

A mixed number combines a whole number and a fraction, such as 2½.

The children will also practise subtracting one fraction from another and taking a fraction away from a mixed number. Throughout the week, they'll use diagrams to show their thinking and explain how they worked out their answers.

Other Subjects:

Computing
In our *iDraw* unit from *iCompute*, the children will continue using digital drawing tools to create their own artwork.
PSHE
As part of our *Celebrating Difference* unit, we'll explore how to recognise direct and indirect bullying, including name-calling and deliberately leaving someone out.
Design and Technology
In our *Funky Furnishings* unit, the children will practise different types of stitches and explore how they can be used to join pieces of fabric.
Geography
We'll compare weather patterns in Las Vegas and the UK, looking for similarities and differences.
Science
This week we'll continue learning about *Forces* by investigating air resistance. The children will make paper parachutes of different shapes and sizes and test how these changes affect the way they fall.
RE
We'll continue learning about *Christianity* by exploring the question 'Is the Christmas story true?'
Music
The children will listen to a range of jazz pieces, talk about what they hear and try playing short sections themselves.
French
In our *Quel temps fait-il ? ('What's the weather like?')* unit, we'll build on the words and phrases we already know to describe the weather at different times of day.

Please could we ask that all children are reading regularly at home. It is important that your child is exposed to a wide range of vocabulary as well as different genres and plots, which will help to develop their inference skills as well as their writing.
Some of the key questions that will help your child to think about their books in detail:

- What do you think might happen next? Why?
- How do you think this character is feeling?
- What does that word mean? Can you work it out from the sentence?
- Why do you think the character did that?
- Can you find a word or phrase that helps you imagine the scene?

Dates for your diary:
Thursday 26th November – Decorations Day – Wear a festive outfit!

Friday 27th November – Please remember that school will be closed for our Occasional Day. Enjoy your long weekend!