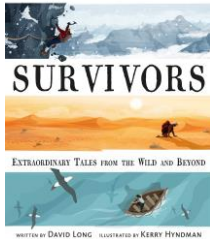


Year 5 Newsletter

Autumn 1 2026

Welcome back!

We are pleased to welcome you back to South Rise for an exciting Autumn term packed with new learning! Read on to find out what Year Five will be up to this half-term, as well as some other important reminders.



Unit of Learning

This half term, we will be looking at the **physical geography** of South America, including its biomes, vegetation belt and understanding the significance of its varied climates across the continent.

In **science**, we will be exploring Space and more specifically the planets in our solar system, the Sun and the Moon.

We will also study the skill of sketching using different mediums in **art**. The children will be using these skills and techniques to create their own image based on our class book. In **computing**, we will be learning about the importance of reputation online.

English

In English this term, we will begin by focusing on a story called 'The Girl Who Fell From the Sky', a true event involving Juliane Koepcke. The children will develop their understanding of survival skills needed in a rainforest biome based on how she managed to stay alive and seek rescue in a hostile environment. Later in the half-term, we will explore the art of writing narrative non-fiction as we write a commentary script detailing the wildlife found on different layers of the rainforest.

Maths

This term, we will develop the children's understanding of place value by recognising, reading and representing numbers up to 1,000,000. Building on the maths skills mastered in Year 4, the children will grow in confidence as they practise key mathematical concepts and apply their knowledge to a range of problems. We will also use Times Tables Rock Stars at school and at home. Please encourage your child to practise their multiplication and division facts regularly. Their login details can be found at the back of their learning journal, and they will need access to a tablet, laptop or smartphone at home. The children need to complete a 'Garage' session for 3 minutes every day.



Home Learning

Our Reading Record enables children, parents and teachers to communicate regularly. One of the most important ways to help your child is to read with them and listen to them read. In Year 5, we recommend that children read with an adult every evening for about half an hour. Please encourage your child to apply their reading skills in everyday scenarios and ensure that your child brings their reading record to school daily. The children will also have weekly spellings and times tables which they will need to practise through the week at home for a quiz on Fridays.

Uniform and PE kit

All school uniform is available online [via Mapac on this link](#). Children should wear grey trousers, skirts or pinafore; navy blue sweatshirts and white polo shirts. Shoes should be black. Please label all items of clothing with your child's name and support us by ensuring that your child does not wear jewellery, nail varnish, jogging bottoms, leggings or short skirts. For PE, children should wear plain white t-shirts, black shorts/tracksuit bottoms and plain black trainers/plimsolls. Your child should bring in their PE kit for Monday and keep it in the school for the week.

Attendance

We encourage all children to have excellent attendance at South Rise. Regular attendance brings enormous benefits to every pupil's self-esteem and attainment levels. It is important to set the expectation of good attendance right from the beginning of the school year. The target for every child's attendance is at least 97% - you can monitor your child's attendance percentage through the MCAS app.

Thank you for your support – Miss Tesfai, Mr Jones and Mr Leslie