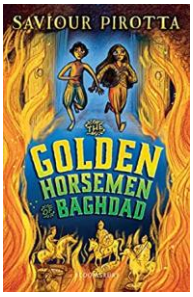
Year 5 Newsletter

Autumn 2 2026

Welcome back!

We all welcome you back and hope you have had a restful half term. We are really looking forward to a brand-new term of learning together!







Our Topic this Term:

In History, children will explore the Golden Age of Islam, looking at life in Baghdad, its trading links along the Silk Road and the discoveries associated with the House of Wisdom. They will investigate achievements in science, mathematics and medicine, considering their lasting impact and comparing life in Baghdad with Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain. Through practical investigations in Science, children will explore gravity, friction, air and water resistance, as well as how levers, pulleys and gears work. Inspired by Marc Chagall, our Art lessons will focus on colour and symbols. Children will experiment with colour mixing and painting techniques to create their own artwork.

English

In English this term, we will look deeper into the true story behind our class text, *The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad* by Saviour Pirotta. In particular, we will examine the water clock sent by the Caliph of Baghdad to the Holy Roman Emperor in around 800 CE. We will discuss the technological significance of this gift and then set about writing persuasive advertisements for the innovative water clock. We'll learn to use persuasive techniques such as rhetorical questions, lists of three and imperative verbs. We will also use the present perfect tense to describe actions that have been completed, and relative clauses to add extra information to our sentences using the relative pronouns 'which', 'who' and 'whose.'

Maths

In maths, children will develop their understanding of multiplication and division, exploring factors, multiples, prime numbers, and square and cube numbers. They will also practise multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. We will then move on to fractions, finding equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering them, and converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers. Children will also practise adding and subtracting fractions. Regular times-table practice will support their learning, so please aim for at least three minutes each day at home.

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.

Uniform and PE kit

All school uniform is available online via Mapac on this link. Children should wear grey trousers, skirts or pinafores; 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 (except stud earrings), 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. Stud earrings must be removed on PE days. Your child should bring in their PE kit on Monday and keep it in 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