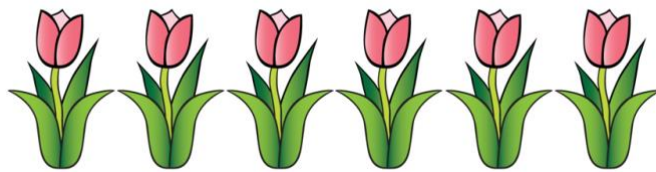
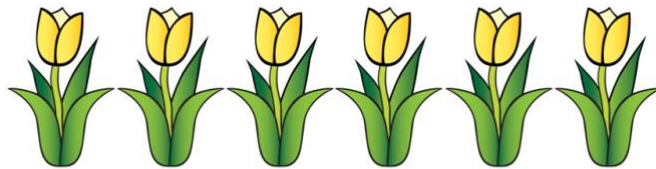
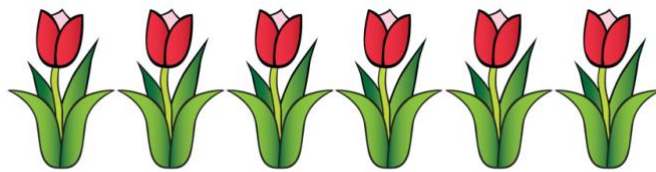


Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

Spring Term 2026



Year 5

Welcome back to Year 5.

Poplars	Pines
Mrs Jameson Mrs Tucker <i>Class Teachers</i>	Mr Hawley <i>Class Teacher</i>
Mrs Moate <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Madame Elena <i>French Teacher</i> Mrs Harrison <i>Music Teacher</i>	Mrs Des Forges <i>PPA cover/Teaching Assistant</i> Madame Elena <i>French Teacher</i> Mrs Harrison <i>Music Teacher</i>

Hello and welcome back to Year 5,

We hope that you find all of the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any further questions about the term ahead please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to talk to you.

There are a few things that you can do to help us:

- Please ensure that your child brings their reading record and reading book to school every day.
- Please ensure that your child's clothing (cardigans and jumpers in particular!) are named.
- Please do not hesitate to let us know if your child struggles with a piece of homework (a note on the actual piece of homework or in their reading record is fine).

Thank you!

Richard Hawley, Julie Jameson and Jess Tucker

Daily Routines

We encourage each child to learn and follow simple daily routines in order to make them independent and responsible for their own belongings. It would be an enormous help to the staff and your child if you could support this by doing the following:

- Dropping your child off promptly at the KS2 waiting area every morning allowing them to walk into school at 8.35.
- Giving your child a piece of fruit (or vegetable) to eat at break time.
- Labelling all belongings including clothes, PE kits and shoes.
- Ensuring your child comes to school in their PE kit on the allocated PE day.
- Ensuring your child has their book bag and lunch box (if they need one) with them in the morning.
- Collecting your child at the end of each day at the KS2 waiting area at 3.20 pm.

Topics for this term

Literacy

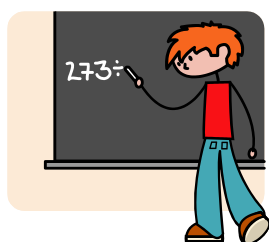
In the first half term, we will be studying our class text, *The Promise*, and use this to improve descriptive writing and then write our own narrative to continue this cyclical story. We will then look at some biographies, including *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World*.



In the second half term, we will be writing letters to persuade, using the text, *The Misadventures of Frederick*. Our final topic will be how to write a non-chronological report using the text, *The Skies Above My Eyes*, *The Street Beneath My Feet* & *The Sea Below My Toes*.

Pupils will improve their reading ability and comprehension skills through daily Guided Reading sessions. Please ensure that your child continues to read at home (please aim for five times a week) for at least 10 minutes and that you complete their Home Learning Book by commenting in the evenings and signing it at the end of each week. This will earn them 'Bookflix' raffle tickets).

Mathematics



Maths will be taught daily using Essential Maths developed by Herts for Learning. This term's areas of study are fractions; – finding equivalents, comparing and ordering, adding/subtracting, multiplying and solving problems involving fractions; measures and converting units of measure; area; volume and capacity and percentages.

Your support in helping your child consolidate their basic skills would be greatly beneficial. This could include: reading and writing large numbers as words and figures, counting forwards and backwards from any number in steps and mental calculations such as quick addition and subtraction facts as well as learning all times tables to 12 times and related division facts.

For more information about what your children will be learning in maths throughout the year please visit our website www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk.

RE

This term we will be studying the units 'People of God' and Salvation from our RE curriculum. We will focus on the Easter Story from The Last Supper to Easter Sunday and look at the key concepts of sacrifice, messiah and salvation.

Computing

In computing the children will learn to search and build a spreadsheet and a database in order to retrieve information. We have been fortunate enough to be loaned some programmable Micro-bits so we will also be extending our coding skills by programming these.

Science

In science, our materials topic continues but we will be furthering our learning by finding out about changes in materials. Our final topic for the Spring term will be investigating forces and this will involve exploring a range of forces including gravity, air resistance and friction. The children will also get the opportunity to find out about the life of Sir Isaac Newton.



The children will be conducting investigations and experiments within these topics and will be learning how to carry out a fair test. Some home reading around these topics will be helpful to your child and also if they have access to the internet the following BBC website may be of interest to them.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q>

History and Geography

This term we shall be studying the arrival of the Anglo Saxons and Scots and their settlements and lifestyle. We will study how Britain changed at this time with different kingdoms and research how religion changed. Thinking about how we get evidence from the past is an important part of this topic.

Then we will move on to study the Vikings – What were the causes and effects of the Viking invasion? We will learn about King Alfred the Great with children using their information to judge how great he was.

Design and Technology and Art

This term we will be studying Matisse's work and creating pieces in his style. DT combines with computing where the children will be making a fairground ride.

PE

Over the course of the term children will develop their skills in badminton and dance. Our special focus is our performance at the Dance Festival at Campus West on Wednesday 25th March.

Don't forget, long hair will need to be tied back and stud earrings removed or covered up with tape provided by parents please.



PSHE

We will continue using our Jigsaw scheme of work and explore our future dreams and goals. Thinking about what job we might like when we grow up and what we will have to do, to achieve this. Our final topic for the spring term will be 'Healthy Me', where we will be discussing body image, alcohol and smoking as well as relationships with food

French

This term in French, children will learn to describe themselves and others and talk about what they have. They will explore topics such as school life in France, dates and celebrations, homes and towns, and simple physical descriptions. Using the verbs *être* (to be) and *avoir* (to have), pupils will practise forming sentences and asking questions, while continuing to build confidence in speaking and pronunciation.



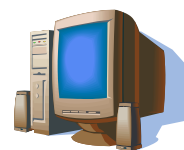
Homework

In line with the school policy on homework this term we will be sending homework as follows:

- **Reading:** as mentioned above, please ensure that your child continues to read at home. Every evening for at least 10 minutes would be ideal but we would ask that you aim for at least five times per week. Please ensure that you complete their Home Learning Book by commenting daily and signing it at the end of each week. It is also beneficial if you read *to* your child whenever possible.
- **Spelling:** homework will be given out on Thursday – Pines/Friday Poplars and tested the following Thursday or Friday. The children have been taught to practise spellings using the 'look, say, cover, write, check,' method and other spelling strategies. In class we will also be revising and consolidating their phonic knowledge. Thank you for supporting your child with his or her spelling homework.
- **Maths:** it would be greatly beneficial to your child if you continue to practise and consolidate basic skills (please see Maths section). Further to this, your child will have their mental arithmetic book to complete at home which will support their learning in class. This will be given out on a Thursday -Pines/Friday Poplars and should be completed at any time to be given in by Thursday of the following week at the very latest.

E-Safety.

Below is some important information on the school's policies on taking photographs of children as well as a copy of the e-safety agreement that the children sign.



Using Images Safely and Responsibly

We all enjoy and treasure images of our family and friends. Our new born baby, first steps, family events, holidays and school events are moments we all like to capture in photos or on video.

We then have the added and exciting dimension of adding our images and video to our social network, such as Facebook, YouTube and many other online websites. This means that we can easily share our photos and video with family and friends.

Whilst this is naturally useful, in schools and educational settings we do need to protect and safeguard all children and staff in our school, including those who do not want to have their images stored online.

Online Images and Video. *What should we think about before adding online any images or video? Are there any risks?*

Facts

- Once online any image or video can be copied and stay online forever.
- Some children are at risk and **MUST NOT** have their image put online. Not all members of the school community will know who they are.
- Some people do not want their images online for personal or religious reasons.
- Some children and staff may have a complex family background which means that image sharing online can have unforeseen consequences.

We must all **'Think Before We Post' Online**

At Welwyn St. Mary's School we are happy for parents and carers to take photos and video of the school events and productions for *personal use* but request that these images are not distributed or put online. This is to protect all members of the school community

Thank you for your support.

Please note: From time to time we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in our school. This might be on our website or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used in this way please send a letter in to your child's teacher.



Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / E- Safety Rules.

- I will only use ICT in school for school purposes.
- I will only use my class e-mail address or my own school e-mail address when e-mailing
 - I will only open e-mail attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved.
 - I will not tell other people my ICT passwords.
 - I will only open / delete my own file.
- I will make sure that all ICT content with other children and adults is responsible, sensible and polite.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this I will tell my teacher immediately.
- I will not give out my own details such as my name, 'phone number or home address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my school teacher and an adult comes with me.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules keep me safe.
- I know that my use of ICT can be checked and that my parent / carer will be contacted if a member of staff is concerned about my E - Safety.

Important Dates so far....

This term we have:

- History off the Page Day – 2nd March (costume required).
- Parent Consultations on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February.
- World Book Day – 5th March
- Year 5 performing at a dance festival at the Campus West Hawthorne theatre Wednesday 25th March (approx. 3.30pm-7pm).
Box office opens shortly. Buy tickets early as they go very fast.
- PTFA KS2 Movie night – 28th April

Please keep checking the monthly newsletters for any new events.

Finally, thank you to all of you for continuing to support your child with their reading, spelling, maths and other projects at home.

Mr Hawley, Mrs Jameson and Mrs Tucker

Our Uniform

Our school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

School Uniform	
Trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore	Grey
Polo shirt, shirt, blouse (with or without logo)	White
School sweatshirt, cardigan *(with or without logo)	Maroon
Plain sensible shoes (no trainers, sandals or boots)	Black
Socks/tights (not trainer socks)	Plain grey
School pink check cotton dress and plain white socks (maybe worn in summer term and up to October half term only)	
*Preferably children should have one sweatshirt or cardigan with a logo	
Additional items	
Water bottle (named)	
Sun hat (in summer)	
Reception and Year 1 – School book bag from uniform supplier	
Year 2 – Year 6 – Small rucksack	
Hair accessories- small plain clips, bands, ribbons in brown, black or maroon	
Key stage 2 - Shin pads for hockey and football	
Optional fleece or jacket with school logo for outdoor use	
PE Kit	
Plain PE shorts	Black
Long plain tracksuit bottoms for colder weather	Black
Trainers for outdoor games	
PE hoodie with house coloured logo	Available from uniform suppliers
Key Stage 1 and Reception only Coloured 'house' T-shirt	Available from the school office
Key Stage 2 only PE polo shirt with coloured house logo	Available from uniform suppliers
PE kit should be worn to school on PE days	

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud only earrings (no other piercings are permitted). Earrings must be taken out or taped for PE (please provide surgical tape).
- A sensible wristwatch (a smartwatch maybe worn if 'classroom mode' is enabled at all times), whilst on the school site and school trips etc.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school.

Hair

- Long hair needs to be tied back for school, this is for safety and hygiene reasons and to ensure that children's vision is not impeded. Hair should not be cut too short and should not have designs / tramlines shaven into it.
- Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted.
- Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands or ribbons in brown, black or maroon are acceptable.

At the Headteacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

Make-Up

Pupils are not allowed to wear make-up or nail varnish. False nails are not permitted.

Labelling

All clothing, shoes, water bottles and school bags should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.