

We are kind

We are brave

We are responsible

We are learners

Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 5

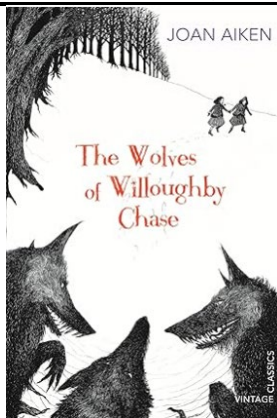
2026 Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5! It has been a pleasure to welcome the children into our new classroom, and I have been very proud of how they have settled back into school so quickly. We have an exciting half term ahead with plenty to keep us busy.

Mrs Ogier and Mr Berman

Key dates for your diary:	➤ Tuesday 13th October – Trip (Hampton Court Palace) ➤ Wednesday 21st October 3.30-4pm Open Classroom
PE days & kit required:	Birch class will need to wear their PE kits on Thursdays and Friday .
Homework:	➤ 10 minutes reading logged on Boom Reader a minimum of 4 times a week. ➤ One MyMaths task – set on Friday, to be completed by Wednesday ➤ 20 minutes spelling practice, spread across the week (e.g. 4 x 5 minutes) Set on Friday, tested on Thursday ➤ 5-20 minutes times table practice on Times Table Rockstars.
Contact us:	 Communication is vital to us supporting the school community effectively. Please speak to your class teacher on the door at drop off or pick up if you have a short query or message. For longer conversations, please email admin@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk FAO Mrs Ogier and I will call you to discuss as soon as possible. Please be aware that teachers are teaching throughout the day so will be unable to speak to you immediately.
Our recommended read:	 JOAN AIKEN The Wolves of Willoughby Chase VINTAGE CLASSICS Our recommended read this half term is 'The Wolves of Willoughby Chase,' by Joan Aiken. Long ago, at a time in history that never happened, England was overrun with wolves. But as Bonnie and her cousin Sylvia discover, real danger often lies closer to home. Their new governess, Miss Slighcarp, doesn't seem at all nice. She shuts Bonnie in a cupboard, fires the faithful servants and sends the cousins far away from Willoughby Chase to a place they will never be found. Can Bonnie and Sylvia outwit the wicked Miss Slighcarp and her network of criminals, forgers and snitches?



Our theme this half term is: **The Tudors**

English: This half term, we will be using the Talk for Writing framework to create our warning story with a focus on description. We will use a short story called 'The Caravan' as our model text. These warning stories will include grammatical features such as coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, fronted adverbials and figurative language. Reading: 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross MacKenzie In reading lessons, we will be using our book, 'The Nowhere Emporium,' to develop our reading skills, increasing reading fluency, and understanding the vocabulary within extracts from the text before answering different types of comprehension questions, including retrieval and inference.	Science: Our science topic this half term explores changes in humans as they develop to old age. This will include identifying the key stages of a mammal's life cycle and exploring the gestation periods of mammals.	History: In our history topic of The Tudors, we will explain how Henry VII created the House of Tudor and why Henry VIII had six wives. We will also develop our understanding of historical events such as the Spanish Armada and explain how the Tudors have influenced modern Britain.
Maths: We will focus this half term on place value, which includes reading and writing numbers up to 1,000,000, comparing and ordering numbers to 1,000,000 and rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. There will also be focus on arithmetic, specifically focusing on multiplication and division. Computing: We will begin our Computing this year by developing an understanding of computer systems.	Art/D.T: Our Art lessons will focus on using painting and different types of media to create portraits. As part of this topic, we will explore ways to create interesting portraits, using words, experimenting with different materials, and constructing self-portraits that represent us. French: We will have the opportunity to recognise, understand and respond to key classroom instructions in French and we will revise and consolidate days of the week, months of the year and numbers from 1-31. We will also begin to look at some explicit grammar such as regular and irregular verbs.	R.E: As part of our Judaism unit, we will be looking at the significance of celebrations such as Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, exploring how important they are to Jewish children. We will learn about what is meant by forgiveness, as well as discovering how new beginnings can be celebrated. P.S.H.E: In P.S.H.E, we will focus on 'Being Me in My World', exploring the Rights of the Child and how to be a global citizen. We will also focus on the 'Zones of Regulation', a model that allows us to explore what different emotions feel like, to name them, and to develop strategies to manage difficult emotions in a pro-social way. PE: This half term, children will be applying and developing their skills for playing tag rugby and basketball.