



Year 5 Autumn 1

Key Dates

Big Question: Why does the Kingdom of Benin not exist today?

Children will be reading, 'Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji which explores the life of a young girl in ancient Benin. Through her story, readers learn about the kingdom's culture, beliefs, traditions, trade, art, and everyday life during this important period of African history. In history, children will be learning about the Kingdom of Benin and exploring why it no longer exists today.

British History Museum trip - Friday 10th October

Friday 19th September – Jeans for Genes Day

Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th October – Parents' Evening

Friday 10th October – World Mental Health Day

Friday 17th October – Last day of term

Subjects	Writing	In English, we will be learning about key texts surrounding our topic, Children of the Benin Kingdom! We will start by creating our own recipe for medicine and for our final outcome, we will be writing a narrative.
	Reading	In Reading, we will be exploring the book Children of the Benin Kingdom and will be developing their reading skills through discussions, activities and a deeper understanding of the story and its themes.
	Maths	In Maths, children will deepen their understanding of place value, recognising the value of digits in numbers up to one million, comparing, ordering and rounding numbers, and using this knowledge to support calculation and problem-solving across maths.
	Science	In Science, children will investigate forces, including gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance. They will explore how mechanisms such as levers, pulleys and gears change the size or direction of a force
	History	In History, children will learn about the Kingdom of Benin, exploring its culture, art, religion, trade and leadership. They will discover how the kingdom developed, its achievements, and what its legacy reveals about African history and civilisation
	Art	In Art, we will study the famous Benin Bronzes, exploring their history, symbolism and craftsmanship. They will develop skills in clay techniques to design and create their own decorative bronze-inspired pieces, celebrating creativity and cultural heritage.
	Music	In Music, we will explore the role of music in the Kingdom of Benin, focusing on drumming, rhythm and call-and-response. They will learn how percussion supported ceremonies, storytelling and communication, while developing their own drumming skills in group performances.
	Religious Studies	In Religious Studies, the children will reflect on their own beliefs and values, while learning about why people believe in God. They will explore different faith perspectives, develop respect for others, and consider how beliefs shape lives, choices and communities.
	Physical Education	In Physical Education, we will develop strength, balance and control through indoor gymnastics, creating and performing sequences with fluency. Outdoors, they will take part in Outdoor and Adventurous Activities (OAA), building teamwork, problem-solving and communication skills in a range of challenges.
	Personal Development	In Personal Development, we will explore healthy relationships, learning about respect, kindness and empathy. They will discuss friendships, families and community, developing skills to manage conflict, understand feelings and build positive connections that support wellbeing and personal growth.
	Modern Foreign Language	In MFL, we will use Language Nut to learn Spanish, focusing on useful phrases and questions for everyday situations. They will practise speaking, listening and reading through interactive activities, building confidence, accuracy and enjoyment in using a new language.
	Computing	In Computing, we will explore social media, considering its positive uses and potential risks. They will learn about online safety, responsibility, and the impact of their digital footprint, developing skills to make informed choices and protect their wellbeing online.

Core Text

