

Year 4 and 5 Thematic Map, Summer Term 2026

Thinkers, Innovators and Inventors



Our Theme Based Curriculum

Our themes run for a term and we try to teach as many subjects as we can through this theme. For Maths, Science, History and Geography we adopt a blocked and interleaved approach.

Subject	How We Teach It	This term children will learn how to:
Writing	We teach writing in fortnightly cycles, culminating in a significant piece of extended writing. At least two of these cycles focus on non-fiction writing and integrate another subject, such as History, Geography, RE or Science.	Write a narrative based on Arabian tale
		Write a debate speech based on an inventor
		Information leaflet on electricity
		Travel Guide
		Poetry
Drama and Oracy opportunities	We try to make learning as creative as possible, ensuring lots of opportunities for talk.	Children will have their weekly drama sessions with Artis. Children will also have the opportunity to write their own speech and present it to their peers. Mini Ted X talks
Key Texts	Children will read high quality texts and these texts will be linked to their learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad - Saviour Pirotta - Greta Thunberg - Little people, big dreams - Our House is on fire - Jeanette Winter - 1001 Inventions & Awesome Facts About Muslim Civilisation - National Geographic kids - Leonora Bolt- Secret inventor by Lucy Brandt - Nikola Tesla for kids by Amy M. O'Quinn
Maths	Children will study these topics:	Year 4 and 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Money ● Decimals and percentages ● Length, perimeter and area ● Time ● Position and direction ● Statistics Year 5 only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Converting units and volume

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tables
Humanities	Each theme includes content in History, Geography or RE. We link this closely to writing. In History and Geography, we follow an interleaved curriculum where we revisit previous learning at regular intervals to recap and embed knowledge.	<p>History: We will learn about the Early Islamic Civilisation including a study of Baghdad c. AD 900.</p> <p>Geography: Children will learn about the geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within Western Asia and North Africa.</p> <p>RE: We will be learning about Islam and explore why Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) was inspiring to some people.</p> <p><u>PHSE:</u> Different Influences (Year 5 only) Children will learn about how certain habits (such as smoking and what we eat) might influence us and our health.</p> <p>Growing up and Changing Year 4 will have RSE week and the lessons will be based on changes to the adolescent body. We will email all parents about what these lessons will involve, so you will be informed in good time before the lessons are taught.</p>
Science	We follow an interleaved curriculum where we revisit previous learning at regular intervals to recap and embed knowledge.	<p>We will be focusing on the two topics: Electricity and Sound. We will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at electricity and how it is infused in all aspects of our lives • Learning how to build our own circuits with the use of switches and buzzers • Focusing on how sound travels • Testing different effects on sound
Art, Design and Technology	We teach Art and DT in an integrated way. We ensure all pupils learn to cook savoury and sweet dishes, developing a range of cookery knowledge and skills over time.	<p><u>ART:</u> Looking at Islamic tiles and creating our own. Focus on Ottoman prints <u>Design and Technology:</u> Creating our own Ottoman prints after selecting different techniques we will have explored</p>
Cooking and Nutrition		<p><u>Cooking:</u> Cooking recipes linked to Geography (West Asia and North Africa)</p>
Music	Children learn to perform, compose and appreciate music. We offer separate instrument tuition.	Music: Time, life cycles and celebrations
Computing	Children learn to use technology effectively and safely, to enhance their learning experiences.	<p><u>Digital Literacy (Online Safety)</u> Termly online safety lesson to start the unit. <u>Computing</u> Coding</p>
Subjects outside the National Curriculum	We listened to our students and we decided to enrich our curriculum by incorporating these elements which sit outside of the National Curriculum.	<p><u>Sustainability:</u> Learning about the impact of Greta Thunberg/Chris Packham/Environmental groups</p> <p><u>Current affairs</u> Climate change</p>

		<p>What makes an appropriate protest? - linked to climate protests.</p> <p><u>Critical Thinking</u> linked to the Golden Age of Islam (Mathematicians, medicine and inventors)</p> <p><u>Debate</u> To what extent has Nikola Tesla's thinking and innovation influenced the modern world?</p> <p><u>Physical Health</u> Daily mile, PE sessions, weekly drama sessions, promote healthy eating through healthy lunches and cooking and a nutrition session.</p> <p><u>Mental Health</u> Using a range of strategies to promote good mental health, e.g. mindfulness, daily mile, physical exercise and the zones of regulation.</p> <p><u>Outdoor Learning</u> Understanding how sound travels outside. Looking at different factors that create an effect.</p>
Cultural Enrichment	We include at least one culturally enriching trip or visitor to the school.	<p>Trip to Westminster Abbey</p> <p>Trip to the Science Museum on Wednesday 24th June</p>
Vocational Experience	We learn about the world of work and about the wide range of choices available to children in their future.	We have had some great speakers come in and speak to the children this year and we would love to have more. If you have experience of working in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) - or if you have any contacts in this field, please let us know.

Vocabulary:

Vocabulary linked to our theme:	Definitions:
Caliphate	A large area of land ruled by a Muslim leader called a caliph.
Caliph	The leader of the Islamic empire after Prophet Muhammad died.
Baghdad	A famous city in the Islamic Empire that became a centre for learning and trade.
House of Wisdom	A special place in Baghdad where scholars studied, translated books, and made new discoveries.
Trade	The buying and selling of goods. The Islamic Empire became rich by trading across different lands.
Scholar	A person who studies and learns a lot, especially about subjects like science, maths, and medicine.
Electricity	A type of energy that can power things like lights, TVs, and computers.
Circuit	A complete loop that electricity flows around to make something work.
Battery	A device that stores energy and provides electricity to a circuit.
Bulb	A light that glows when electricity flows through it.
Switch	A part that turns a circuit on or off by opening or closing it.
Conductor	A material (like metal) that allows electricity to pass through it easily.
Prophet Muhammed (pbuh)	The final prophet in Islam, who Muslims believe received messages from Allah and taught people how to live good lives.
Allah	The Arabic word for God in Islam. Muslims believe there is only one God.
Mosque	A special place where Muslims go to pray and worship Allah.

Weekly Home Learning:

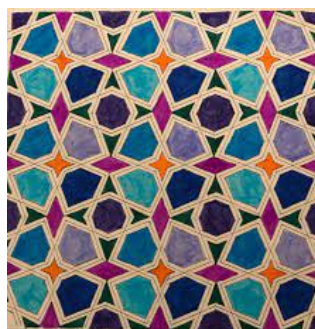
- Please encourage your children to read for 20 minutes every day
- Ensure your child completes their reading journal home learning by Friday
- Complete a task on Doodle Maths 3-4 times a week to stay in the **Green Zone!**
<https://doodlelearning.com/>

Over the course of this term, we would like you and your child to complete the following:

Project: We expect all pupils to complete a home learning project, linked to the theme. This can be as open ended and ambitious as you like! It does not need to be an arts and crafts topic, or even in English. Projects should be completed by **Friday 15th May 2026**

Here are some project ideas (you can use one of these ideas or think of an idea of your own):

- Look at Islamic architecture as inspiration to create your own design or model of a building.
- Investigate islamic patterns and create your own using tessellation.
- Make a torch or game using electricity.
- Make some food to share and present the recipe.
- Use your computing skills to create a slideshow or film or podcast.
- Create a piece of artwork based on what we have been learning.
- Design an invention and make a detailed drawing of it or actually make it.
- Use your electrical circuit skills to make something.
- Draw maps of parts of the world we have been studying.



Writing: We expect every child to complete three pieces of writing at home every term. These are to be handed in by **Friday 10th July 2026**

Children can choose three writing tasks. Here are some ideas to help you:

- Newspaper report about an invention (you can come up with your own or write about a real invention) or a local issue
- Diary entry about your trip or day at school
- Narrative text inspired by an Arabian tale
- Explanation text about how an invention works
- Information leaflet about a place linked to the Islamic civilization
- A Google Slides presentation about an electrical invention

Reading recommendations:

We advise our students to borrow and read these books at home:

These texts would be great to read at home and link to the learning for the term:

1. **Electricity and Circuits by Kirsteen Rogers** – A clear introduction to electrical concepts, circuits, and safety, with illustrations and activities.
2. **How Electricity Works by DK** – Explains how electricity powers everyday life, including interactive diagrams.
3. **Switch On! Electricity by Chris Oxlade** – Hands-on experiments to help children understand circuits and energy.
4. **Isaac Newton and the Electrical Adventure by Clive Gifford** – A story-based exploration linking historical discoveries to modern electricity concepts.
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5. **The Golden Age of Islam by Marcia Williams** – Introduces the achievements of early Islamic scholars, inventors, and cities.
6. **Islamic Civilization: Science, Art and Culture by Jane Chisholm** – Focuses on inventions, scientific discoveries, and cultural contributions.
7. **Children of the Crescent by Fiona Macdonald** – A narrative approach exploring daily life and stories from the early Islamic world.
8. **The Amazing Book of Islamic Civilisation by Hannah Eliot** – Combines illustrations, timelines, and interesting facts suitable for young readers.
9. **The Adventures of Ibn Battuta by Fatima Sharafeddine** – Follows the famous medieval explorer on travels through Islamic lands, mixing history and adventure.
10. **Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns by Hena Khan** – A beautifully illustrated story introducing children to Islamic architecture, traditions, and life during the Golden Age.
11. **The Adventures of Sinbad the Sailor (retold) by Kate Coombs** – Retold tales from the Arabian Nights with cultural and historical context.
12. **Aladdin and Other Tales from the Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang** – Stories set in the Islamic world, offering fantasy adventures with cultural insights.