Five Spires Academy - Long Term Planning 2026-2027

Year 4	AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1	SPRING 2	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
	Through a Child's Eyes…	**Earth Quakes**	**Saxon Settlers**	**From Farm to Fork & Fairtrade**	**Marvellous Mayans**	**River Detectives**
ENGLISH	**Thematic Text:** • *Investigating Childhood in Tudor & Victorian Times* • Non-fiction Victorian texts **Guided Reading:** • *Hetty Feather* – Jaqueline Wilson **Writing Genre & Focus:** **Place Value of Punctuation & Grammar (2 weeks Consolidation)** • Non-chronological report: Victorian Schools • Recount (Diary): *A Day in the Life of a Victorian Factory Child* or *A Day at a Tudor School*	**Thematic Text:** • *Escape from Pompeii* – Christina Balit • *Non-fiction texts about volcanoes and earthquakes* **Guided Reading:** • *The Land of Roar* – Jenny McLachlan **Writing Genre & Focus:** • Narrative inspired by Escape from Pompeii • Explanation: Why Do Volcanoes Erupt? • Recount: Witnessing the Eruption of Mount Vesuvius	**Thematic Text:** • *Beowulf* – (adapted child-friendly version) • *Anglo-Saxons and Vikings* – DK (non-fiction extracts) • Local history materials (St Chad, Mercia) **Guided Reading:** • *Winter of the Wolves* – Tony Bradman **Writing Genre & Focus:** • Narrative: An Anglo-Saxon Legend Inspired by Beowulf • Non-chronological report: Anglo-Saxon Life • Recount: An Anglo-Saxon Settler's Journey or A Viking Raid	**Thematic Text:** • *The Chocolate Tree* – Linda Lowery • Short texts on Fairtrade, imports, food miles (teacher-made) **Guided Reading:** *The Song of the Dolphin Boy* – Elizabeth Laird **Writing Genre & Focus:** • Explanation: *How Does Food Travel from Farm to Fork?* • Persuasive: Why Fairtrade Matters • Instructions: How to Prepare a Healthy Snack or How Chocolate Is Made	**Thematic Text:** • The Rain Player by David Wisniewski • Non-fiction texts about the Maya • *The Maya* – Usborne **Guided Reading:** **Writing Genre & Focus:** • Narrative: Maya-inspired myth • Non-chronological report: Maya civilisation • Explanation: Maya achievements	**Thematic Text:** • *Rivers and Streams* - Usborne • *Rivers* – DK / National Geographic Kids • Case studies of rivers (local + global) **Guided Reading:** • Charlotte's Web – E.B. White **Writing Genre & Focus:** • Explanation: *How Do Rivers Form?* • Recount: fieldwork visit • Persuasive: river conservation
MATHS	**Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Area, Multiplication and Division A**		**Multiplication and Division B, Length and Perimeter, Fractions, Decimals A**		**Decimals A + Decimals B, Money, Time, Shape, Statistics, Position and Direction**	
SCIENCE	**Animals including humans**: Digestion and food	**Energy:** Electricity and circuits	**Materials:** States of matter	**Energy:** Sound and vibrations	**Living things:** Classification and changing habitats	**Making connections:** How does the flow of liquids compare?
HISTORY	How have children's lives changed?		British history 3: What changed in Britain after the Anglo-Saxon invasion?		How did the achievements of the ancient Maya impact their society and beyond?	
GEOGRAPHY		**Why do people live near volcanoes? (Volcanoes & Earthquakes: Physical Geography)** Pupils explore volcanoes and earthquakes around the world, using fieldwork on the school grounds in Lichfield to connect global processes to their local environment.		**Where does our food come from?** Pupils explore where food comes from globally, using fieldwork in Lichfield to investigate food sources, map origins and understand sustainability and food choices.		**What are rivers and how are they used? (Rivers)** Pupils explore rivers in the UK and around the world, using fieldwork in Lichfield to investigate local river features and understand how rivers are used and managed.
ART	**Drawing: Tone, Texture & Proportion - How can we use tone to create a 3D effect in drawing?** Pupils explore tone, texture and proportion in drawing inspired by Sarah Graham (British), Nicola McBride (Scottish), Beatriz Milhazes (Brazilian) and Maryam Arslan (Pakistani).		Coming soon! **Painting and mixed media:** Light and dark (5 lessons)		**Craft & Design: Fabric of Nature - What are starting points in the design process?** Pupils explore pattern and textile design inspired by William Morris (British), Megan Carter (British), Ruth Daniels (American) and Senaka Senanayake (Sri Lankan).	
DT		**Cooking and nutrition: Adapting a recipe**		**Mechanical Systems – Mechanical Cars**		**Electrical Systems – Exploring Electrical Products**
MUSIC						
PE	Coach: Handball Teacher: Swimming	Coach: Rounders Teacher: Swimming	Coach: Basketball Teacher: Swimming	Coach: Tennis Teacher: Swimming	Coach: Athletics Teacher: Swimming	Coach: Outdoor and Adventure Teacher: Swimming
RSE & PSHE	My healthy self: How can I make healthy choices?	Connecting with others: How can we respect each other?	The online world: How can we decide what to trust online?	Coming 21 September 2026	My healthy self: How can I make healthy choices?	Connecting with others: How can we respect each other?
RELIGION & WORLDVIEWS	**Are all religions equal?** Comparing religions including Sikhism and the Bahá'í Faith**.**	**What makes some texts sacred?** Exploring sacred texts in Sikhism (Guru Granth Sahib) **and other religions.**	**Just how important are our beliefs?** Investigating belief in action across multiple religions **(e.g. Islam, Sikhism, Christianity).**	**Who was Jesus really?** **Studying the life of Jesus in** Christianity**.**	**Why is the Bible the best-selling book of all time**? Exploring the Bible in Christianity**.**	**Does the language of scripture matter?** Exploring scripture language including Islam (Qur'an/Arabic) and others.
COMPUTING	Unpacking hardware & software	Animation	Logo Sound Stories	Effective Searching	Coding	Composing Beats Introduction to AI
FRENCH	Unit 1: Portraits – describing in French	Unit 2: Clothes – getting dressed in France	Unit 3: French numbers, calendars and birthdays	Unit 4: French weather and the water cycle	Unit 5: French food – Miam, miam !	Unit 6: French and the Eurovision Song Contest