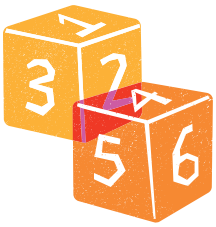
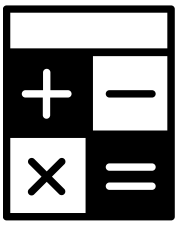
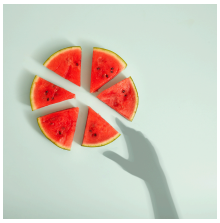
Maths Expectations

What will I learn in year 5?

Place Value	Calculations	Fractions	Shape and Measures	Time
				

What will I do?

In Year 5, your child will deepen their understanding of number, develop more efficient calculation strategies, and explore new areas of maths with greater independence and confidence. This year focuses strongly on fluency, reasoning, and solving more complex, multi-step problems.

Children will work with numbers up to 1,000,000, learning to read, write, order, and compare them. They'll round large numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000, or even 100,000 and count forwards and backwards in steps of powers of 10. Place value will also include work with negative numbers, often in the context of temperature or money.

Mental and written methods for addition and subtraction will be refined, and children will be expected to solve a wide range of problems using these skills. They'll use formal written methods confidently and choose the most efficient strategies when working things out.

In multiplication and division, your child will work with much larger numbers and extend their knowledge of factors, multiples, and prime numbers. They'll continue using known times table facts and apply them in more challenging contexts, such as scaling problems and long multiplication.

Fractions, decimals and percentages are a key focus in Year 5. Children will learn to compare and order fractions, find equivalent fractions, and add or subtract them when they have the same or related denominators. They'll also convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Work with decimals includes reading and writing numbers with up to three decimal places, and rounding them to the nearest whole number or tenth. They'll also begin to understand percentages as 'parts out of 100' and link them to equivalent fractions and decimals.

In measurement, children will convert between units (e.g. kilometres to metres, litres to millilitres) and solve problems involving perimeter, area and volume. Time skills are further developed, including working with timetables and solving duration problems.

In geometry, children will explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes more deeply, including measuring and calculating angles. They'll classify shapes using terms like regular, irregular, and symmetrical. Position and direction work includes using coordinates in all four quadrants and translating or reflecting shapes on a grid.

Statistics includes reading and interpreting more complex data from tables, graphs and timetables. Children will learn how to extract key information and draw their own graphs to represent data clearly.

By the end of Year 5, your child will have a more mature and flexible approach to maths. They'll be able to tackle more demanding problems, justify their reasoning, and explain their methods using mathematical language.

How can you help?

You play a vital role in helping your child grow in confidence and enjoyment with maths. There are many simple and fun ways you can support their learning at home – no special equipment needed!

Keep Times Tables Sharp
Even though your child may already *know* their times tables, quick recall is key in Year 5—especially when working with bigger numbers or fractions. Short, daily practice (even just 5 minutes) using apps like Times Tables Rock Stars or quick-fire questions can really strengthen fluency.

Talk About Big Numbers in Real Life
Year 5 pupils work with numbers up to one million. You can help by pointing out large numbers in everyday life—on signs, packaging, news articles, or even sport stats. Ask questions like, "What's 10,000 more than that?" or "Can you round that to the nearest 1,000?"

Use Real Money and Percentages
Let your child help work out discounts when shopping (e.g. “What’s 20% off £30?”) or compare offers using percentages. Handling real money, checking receipts, or looking at sale prices builds their confidence with both decimals and percentages.

Explore Fractions Through Food and Cooking
Fractions and decimals are easier to grasp when children see them in action. Use recipes to practise fractions (“Can you double ¾ cup?”) or talk about dividing pizza, fruit or cake into parts. Ask them to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions, if they’re ready for the challenge!

Support Time and Timetables
Many children still find telling time tricky in Year 5, especially using 24-hour clocks or working out durations. Involve your child in planning journeys, reading timetables, or calculating how long an activity will last.

Encourage Logical Thinking with Games
Strategy games like Chess, Sudoku, Battleships or online logic puzzles build reasoning and problem-solving skills. Even traditional board games involving money or movement on a grid help reinforce maths concepts in a fun way.

Let Them Talk Through Their Thinking
Ask your child to explain how they solved a problem—even if they get it wrong at first. Talking through the steps helps them develop reasoning skills and spot mistakes independently. Celebrate their effort and curiosity rather than just getting the right answer.

Most importantly, keep it positive! Let your child see that making mistakes is part of learning and that maths can be fun, useful, and all around us.Thank you for being such an important part of your child’s learning journey.

Mrs Hopkins, Maths Coordinator