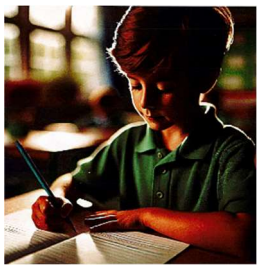

Y5 Writing Expectations

By the end of Year 5, children are expected to:

- ✓ Write longer, more detailed pieces – organising ideas clearly.
- ✓ Use paragraphs effectively – with openings that show a change of topic or time.
- ✓ Expand vocabulary – using adventurous and precise words.
- ✓ Use grammar confidently – including:
  - Correct verb tenses (past, present)
  - Relative clauses (e.g. The boy, who was tired, sat down)
  - Modal verbs (could, might, should) and adverbs to show possibility (perhaps, surely).
- ✓ Punctuate accurately, including:
  - Full stops, commas, question marks, exclamation marks
  - Speech marks for dialogue, with commas and punctuation inside
  - Apostrophes for possession and contraction
  - Brackets and dashes for extra information
- ✓ Spell accurately – including words with prefixes and suffixes (im-, dis-, -able, -tion) - plus challenging words from the Year 5/6 list.
- ✓ Handwriting should be joined, fluent and legible – so that it can be read easily.
- ✓ Link ideas across paragraphs – using time adverbs (later, soon) and linking words (however, meanwhile, therefore).
- ✓ Write for different purposes – stories, reports, instructions, persuasive writing, poetry.
- ✓ Edit and improve work – spotting spelling or punctuation errors and improving word choices.

How you can help at home

- ❖ Encourage daily reading to broaden vocabulary.
- ❖ Talk about new words and their meanings.
- ❖ Have discussions together about a variety of topics and interests
- ❖ Let your child write for fun – stories, shopping lists, notes or letters.
- ❖ Help them practise challenging spellings and punctuation.
- ❖ Ask them to read their writing aloud – it helps spot mistakes and improve flow.