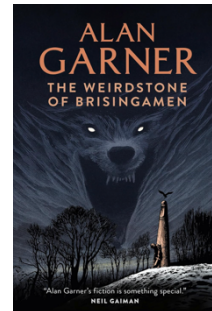
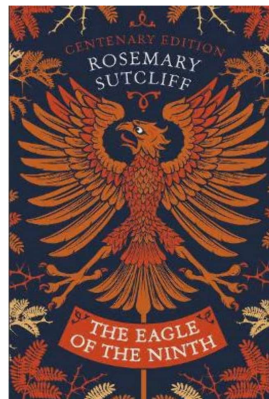
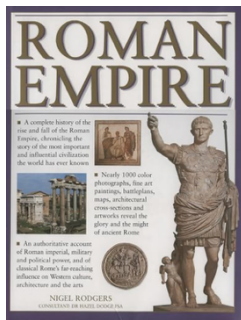


September 2026

Whole School Theme: Roots

Base 5 Focus: Roman Britain, Chester and Roman Cheshire

Class Story: *The Eagle of the Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliff



Welcome back everyone! I hope you have all had a fantastic summer break and enjoyed plenty of time relaxing, exploring and spending time with family and friends. I am really looking forward to welcoming everyone into Base 5 and beginning what promises to be a brilliant year together as our new Year 5 and Year 6 class.

Our whole-school theme for the autumn term is 'Roots', and in Base 5 we will be exploring our roots through the fascinating history of Roman Britain and Roman Cheshire. Our learning will take us from the wider Roman Empire right back to our own local area as we investigate the Roman history that can still be discovered around Chester, Nantwich and Cheshire today.

At the heart of our learning will be our class text, *The Eagle of the Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliff. This exciting historical adventure will provide inspiration for our reading and writing and help us immerse ourselves in the world of Roman Britain.

In History, we will investigate the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain, with a particular focus on our local area. We will discover why Chester became the important Roman fortress of Deva, explore Roman roads, settlements, trade and everyday life, and use historical and archaeological evidence to uncover the Roman footprint that remains in Cheshire today.

Our learning will connect across the curriculum. In Geography, we will broaden our understanding of the world by locating and exploring countries across Europe, North America and South America. In Science, we will investigate living things, habitats, classification and life cycles, while Year 6 will also explore light. In Art and Design, we will combine typography, maps and mixed media to create artistic representations of the Roman footprint of Chester and Nantwich. In DT, we will become Roman engineers as we design, construct and evaluate our own catapults, considering how structures can be strengthened and reinforced.

Our Music learning will also connect with Roman Cheshire through our *Echoes of Empire* unit, using composition and performance to represent Roman roads, trade, the army and everyday life. In RE, we will explore Christianity, including Christian beliefs about God, Jesus, the Trinity, the Kingdom of God, prayer, worship, salvation and forgiveness. In Computing, our focus will be Digital Citizenship, developing the knowledge and skills needed to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.

There is lots of exciting learning ahead! Please take a look at our Autumn Curriculum Overview, which provides further information about everything we will be exploring this term.

Reading

Reading continues to be an incredibly important part of life in Base 5. Our classroom has a wide selection of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and graphic novels, and we will continue to add new and exciting books throughout the year. We want every child to discover authors, genres and subjects that they genuinely enjoy while also challenging themselves to broaden their reading.

Our Education Library Service will provide us with further books linked to our curriculum, including texts about Roman Britain, Roman Cheshire, the wider world and our Science learning.

Children should aim to read at least five times each week, and reading diaries will be checked regularly. Reading at home does not always need to involve reading an entire chapter – regular, purposeful reading is what matters. Talking about vocabulary, characters, predictions and what has happened in a text can be just as valuable in developing comprehension.

If anyone is struggling to find a book they enjoy, please ask! One of our goals this year is to help every child find books and authors that make them want to keep reading.

We will also continue our **Reading Badge Challenge**:

- 🏅 **Bronze – 50 reads** – achievable within the autumn term
- 🥈 **Silver – 100 reads** – achievable within the spring term
- 🥇 **Gold – 150 reads** – achievable within the summer term
- ⭐ **Platinum – 200 reads**
- **Over 300 reads** – an extra-special reward from Mrs Charlesworth!

Base 5 Timetable

Each morning, children will take part in their core learning, including **Maths, English, Reading and SPaG**, with much of our wider curriculum taking place during the afternoons. This includes Science, History, Geography, Art, DT, Music, RE, Computing, French, PSHE and PE.

Where appropriate, subjects will connect with one another so that children can develop a deeper understanding of their learning. Our Roman Cheshire theme is a great example of this, linking our work in History with English, Art, DT and Music.

Across all lessons, there will continue to be a strong emphasis on **oracy**. Children will be encouraged to articulate their ideas clearly, explain and justify their thinking, listen carefully to others and participate confidently in discussions. These skills are incredibly important, both academically and socially, and will be developed throughout the curriculum.

PE: [Insert 2026–27 PE day/provider/sports.]

Children should come to school wearing the correct school PE kit on their designated PE day.

We will also continue with our **myHappymind** programme each week, supporting children's wellbeing, relationships and understanding of themselves and others.

Our weekly **Wellbeing Lunch Clubs** will also continue. Once a week, children from Years 3–6 meet in small groups with a member of staff, often someone other than their class teacher. Children eat lunch together and explore carefully selected picture books that provide opportunities to talk about emotions, relationships, differences and experiences. These sessions provide a safe and relaxed space in which children can talk, ask questions and share any worries they may have.

Day	8.40 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.30	9.30 – 10.45	10.30 – 10.45	10.45 – 12.00		12.00 – 1.00	1.00 – 1.30	1.30 – 2.00	2.00 – 2.30	2.30 – 3.00	3.00 – 3.30
Monday	Arrive and Morning Activities	SPaG / Letter formation	English	Break	Arithmetic	Maths	Lunch	Reading	Curriculum and Learning Journey			Assembly
Tuesday		SPaG / Letter formation	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Science			Reading	French
Wednesday		SPaG / Letter formation	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Reading	Curriculum and Learning Journey			Assembly
Thursday		SPaG / Letter formation	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Reading	Curriculum and Learning Journey			ACHIEVE Assembly
Friday		Theme/Oracy Assembly	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Base 5 PE				

Homework

This year, children will receive a homework journal containing a selection of tasks that they can choose to complete throughout the term. Homework is not compulsory; however, it is a fantastic opportunity to consolidate classroom learning, explore subjects further and share learning at home.

Different activities will be worth different numbers of team points depending upon their level of challenge. At the end of the term, points will be totalled and prizes awarded to our top three homework achievers. Exceptional effort, creativity and children developing their own learning activities can also earn bonus points!

Alongside the homework journal, there are three things we would strongly encourage children to practise regularly at home:

Reading – at least five times each week
Times tables/TTRS – little and often
Weekly spellings – practise throughout the week

*Spellings will be shared on a **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**.*

Year 6 – As we move through the year, there will be additional home learning opportunities to practise and embed specific skills and some revision tasks.

Punctuality and attendance

The school gates open at **8:40am**, and all children must be in school by **8:55am**. Learning is ready for the children from 8:40am, so arriving promptly gives them the opportunity to settle, organise themselves and begin the day positively.

Arriving late can mean that children miss important teaching and can leave them feeling behind or unprepared for the day. It also interrupts learning that has already begun for the rest of the class.

Excellent attendance is equally important. Our aim is for every child to attend school as regularly as possible so that they can benefit fully from their learning and make the best possible progress. **Every lesson matters.**



Uniform

This year sees the introduction of our **new school uniform**. At Wrenbury Primary School, we want all children to wear their uniform smartly and with pride. Our uniform reflects our belief that **'We all matter'** and that every child is an equal and valued member of our school community. High standards of uniform and appearance also contribute to the positive ethos and high expectations we have across school.

On PE days, children should come to school already dressed in their PE kit. The **new black and red school PE top with the school logo is compulsory**, alongside black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings and trainers. Children may wear the school black and red PE hoodie or a plain black hoodie/zipped jacket during colder weather.

Full details of our new uniform, including summer options and PE kit requirements, can be found in the **School Uniform Policy on the school website**.

Snacks and drinks

We are passionate about supporting children to make healthy lifestyle choices and know that healthy bodies and healthy brains go hand in hand.

Children may bring a **healthy snack** to school, such as fruit or vegetables. Please do not send sweets or chocolate as a morning snack.

Children should also bring a **water bottle filled with water** each day. Water is the healthiest option for hydration and children's teeth, and it also avoids sticky spillages and damage to classroom resources.

Base 5 Charity

This year, Base 5 are proud to be supporting Chance Changing Lives, a local Cheshire charity that helps people and families experiencing poverty, homelessness and financial hardship. Throughout the year, we will be learning more about the important work the charity does within our local community and thinking about how we can make a positive difference to the lives of others. Base 5 will take part in a range of fundraising events, collections and challenges across the year, giving every child opportunities to get involved and contribute. We are really excited to work together as a class, involve our families and wider school community, and see just how much of a difference Base 5 can make!



Want to find out more? Visit the Chance Changing Lives website to discover more about the charity, the people they support and the fantastic work they do across our local community.

<https://www.chancechanginglives.org/>

Key dates:

4th September – Tuckshop starts (every Friday after school; bring 50p)

9th September – What to expect in KS2 meeting

18th September – Base 5 theme day

6th October – Year 6 Crucial Crewe

7th October – Fluenz Nasal Spray (LW – Y6)

9th October – Parents Online Safety Meeting

21st October – Harvest assembly



13th/15th/16th October – Bikeability

14th October – Stoke Theatre Trip

21st October – Photographs

21st/22nd October – Settling parents' evening

23rd October – Last day before half term

6th November – Base 5 oracy assembly

16th November – School Photography

10th – 14th November – Anti-bullying week

11th December – Christmas Fair

16th December – KS2 carol service

Please do remember to check your emails / texts as further dates and school communications will be sent via these communication channels.

Open door

I am really looking forward to getting started and to what promises to be an exciting year in Base 5! I have had the pleasure of teaching many of you before, so you already know me and how we work together in the classroom. For those joining my class for the first time, I am looking forward to getting to know you and welcoming you into Base 5.

For many families, you already know how to get in touch with me should you need anything. As always, I am very happy to help if you have any concerns, big or small, or if there is anything you feel I should know that may affect your child's learning or wellbeing. Please feel free to speak to me at the gate, get in touch through school or arrange a convenient time for us to meet.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning another fantastic year together!

Best wishes,

Mr Thorburn and Mrs Winward