



Ethical, Equity, Empathy, Excellence, Evolution, Endurance

The Five Islands Academy is an all-age, multi-site, Church of England Academy, serving the island communities of Bryher, St Agnes, St Martin's, St Mary's and Treco. It is part of the Leading Edge Academies Partnership.

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Spring Term 2026 – Yachts Class

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring Term! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break, (thank you very much for my presents!) and were able to enjoy some special time with friends and family.

Below is a brief overview of what we'll be getting up to this term, along with some key information to help us get off to a smooth start.

What your child needs to bring to school

As the weather begins to improve, we hope to make the most of our surroundings by learning outside the school and around St Mary's, including visits to places such as the nature reserve or the beach. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable footwear and clothing for the weather each day. I will always share details of any specific trips or outings in advance via Seesaw.

All stationery is provided in school, so children do not need to bring in pencil cases. PE will continue to take place on **Mondays and Fridays**, so please ensure PE kits are worn on those days. Forest School lessons will also continue on **Wednesdays**. For health and safety reasons, children with long hair should bring a hair tie, and all jewellery must be removed.

Maths

Our main focus this term will continue to be **learning times tables** with children consolidating inverse operations (e.g. 3 times 4 equals 12, 12 divided by 4 equals 3). We will also be covering:

- Multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Decimals and percentages
- Perimeter and area



The Five Islands Academy website can be accessed via: www.fiveislands.scilly.sch.uk

- Statistics

Regular practice at home, particularly of mental arithmetic and times tables, is really helpful. Children can continue to use **Times Table Rock Stars** to support this.

English

Our class texts this term will include *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly, *Kaspar: Prince of Cats* by Michael Morpurgo, and *The Whale* by Ethan and Vita Murrow. These texts will support our writing, with a focus on developing stamina for writing at length, adapting writing for different purposes, and using the full range of Year 5 grammar and punctuation. Spelling and grammar will continue to be revisited daily to help embed key skills.

Topic

This term, we will be:

- Learning about the **Anglo-Saxons and Vikings** in History
- Studying **Alpine Europe** in Geography
- Exploring **life cycles and forces** in Science

Home learning

Please continue to support your child by encouraging regular reading at home, practising times tables, and completing the home learning tasks, which will be set each **Monday** throughout the term.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns, you are very welcome to contact me via email at **alanraig@fiveislands.org**, or catch me after school. I will continue to use **Seesaw** to share reminders and class information, while all important whole-school updates will be sent via school email.

Please also be aware that I am now well underway with booking and preparing for our **mainland trip**. If you have any questions, worries or considerations you'd like me to be aware of, do let me know so I can include these in my planning.

I'm really looking forward to another busy and enjoyable term with the children and to continuing to work closely with you all.

Kind regards,
Alan Craig