

May has arrived and has brought the sun!

'Switch off and switch on!' for May

May is a time for getting outdoors, stretching legs, enjoying the blooming plants and looking up at the night sky. Here are some free ideas to explore:

Look Up!



The Eta Aquarids are meteor showers that can be seen throughout May. The most likely day to see them is May 6th.

The best way to see a meteor shower is to find a dark place, preferably in the open and away from city lights. Lie back and allow your eyes to adjust – be patient! Count how many meteorites you see.

May is also a good month to track Jupiter and Venus, both of which are very bright in the sky. Let us know if you see them!

You can also see the 'flower moon' – can you find out why it is called the 'flower moon?' Are there any other names for the flower moon?



Look Around!

As Spring begins to bloom, why not try capturing the beauty of the earth coming back to life?

Get creative! There are no rights or wrongs with art, just endless opportunities to have fun.

- Collage: use paper or card from recycling to create spring flowers or insects such as butterflies
- Sketching: get outdoors and draw some of the signs of spring

Don't forget to bring some of your artwork into school to share with us.

May 1st

Vesak

"Vesak", (the day of the full moon), is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists around the world.

It was on the Day of Vesak, in the year 623 B.C., that the Buddha was born. It was also on this day that the Buddha attained enlightenment, and it was on this day that the Buddha died in his eightieth year.

Don't worry if you don't see the full moon as there will be a rare second full Moon - also known as a blue moon - happening at the end of May.



Switch off...and switch on! May Edition

May 10th	Clean up your room day!
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- Yes, this is a real thing!
- Make time to tackle your room. You can make it fun by setting challenges:
 - Take a before and after photograph so that you can see how much progress you have made.
 - How many things can you tidy away in one minute? Try to beat your score each time.
 - Are there any of your belongings that you don't use or need anymore? If they are in good condition, donate them to charity so that someone else can enjoy them.
- If your room is tidy, why not surprise your parents/carers and tidy another room.
- When you are done, make a sign for the door by decorating your name.

May 15th	International Day of Families
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This is an opportunity to celebrate all types of families from all over the world. How will you celebrate your family?

- Draw a picture of your family
- Do something together – cook a meal or go for a walk
- Write up a family story.

May 18th	Walk to School Week
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If you don't already do so, plan to walk to school this week.

- Is it possible to cut some time off each journey?
- What do you see on your journey? Look out for signs of spring.

May 18th	International Museum Day
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We are lucky to have so many free museums within walking distance. Which one will you visit?

Museum	Website
Manchester Museum	https://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/
Museum of Science & Industry	https://www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/
People's History Museum	https://phm.org.uk/
Salford Museum & Art Gallery	https://salfordmuseum.com/
Imperial War Museum North	https://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-north

Switch off...and switch on! May Edition

Home movie night

Title	Rating
Bee Movie	PG



What score would you give the film out of 10? What was your favourite part?

Read the book and watch the film – did you spot any differences?

Charlotte's Web by EB White



Book Club

You can find these Spring-themed books in the library:



Little Bear's Spring

Elli Woollard

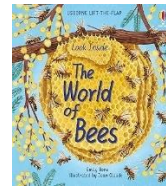
Bryony May Smith



Outside in:

Nature Poems

Daniel Thompson



The World of Bees:

Emily Bone

Playlist:

Title	Artist
Walking on Sunshine	Katrina and the Waves
Mr Blue Sky	Electric Light Orchestra
The Flight of the Bumble Bee	Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (classical)
Family Affair	Sly & the Family Stone



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What's in the Local Area?

See below for some ideas to get outdoors

Garden Trails & Easter Egg Hunts:

RHS Bridgewater – The Wind in the Willows

<https://www.visitmanchester.com/event/the-wind-in-the-willows%3a-a-garden-adventure/108092101/>

Heaton Park – a shorter trail with Spring characters

<https://www.visitmanchester.com/event/spring-trail-at-heaton-park/109904101/>

Switching off at home time

Try the following conversation starters to encourage chat with your child at pick up time:

- What was your favourite part of the day?
- What are you looking forward to tomorrow?

Can you think of any other activities? Please share your ideas!