

Space - What secrets lie in the Universe?

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Our topic in year 5 for this term is 'Space'. During this topic we will be investigating two key questions: 'What secrets lie in the Universe?' and 'What do we know about the planets of the solar system?'. Our school prides itself on giving our pupils ownership over their own learning, by involving the children in the planning stages of our topics. Because of this, the children will be encouraged to learn about areas that are of particular interest to them.

Literacy

Children will explore a range of science fiction texts and stories from imaginary worlds in order to write a setting from an imaginary planet. Children will extend their knowledge of figurative language and write descriptions that use personification and metaphor effectively. Children's punctuation and grammar focus for this term will be around the use of brackets, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis.

Numeracy

During the Autumn term, children will focus on developing their understanding of number and methods of calculation. Specifically children will learn to: read, write order and compare numbers to 1,000,000; develop their mental calculation strategies; read and write Roman numerals up to 1000; Use formal written methods of addition and subtraction and multiply numbers with up to 4 digits using long multiplication.

Science

Children will research the planets of our solar system and explore how they move in relation to one another and in relation to the Sun. Children will learn about the Earth's rotation and use this understanding to explain how the conditions of day and night are created. Additionally, children will plan a scientific enquiry to explore the force of gravity.

Geography

Our Geography lessons this term will centre around the use of satellite images and what we can learn from observations of the Earth from space. Children will develop their locational knowledge by plotting continents and countries as well as the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Art & Design

During our Art lessons, children will develop a range of techniques for applying paint and creating textured surfaces in order to create a final piece of work based on an image from space.

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Design and Technology

Children will work individually and in groups to design and create model rockets that use compressed air to operate. Children will explore how unbalanced forces create thrust and will research the developments of technology used for space travel.

History

Children will explore the reasons that explorers journeyed into space. They will learn about the space race and order some of the main events onto a timeline. Children will also find out about some famous astronauts including Neil Armstrong and look at the documentation of key events, such as the moon landing, in the media.

PSHE

The children will take part in weekly PSHE lessons with varying themes throughout the year and this will centre around our 'Rights Respecting Schools' ethos.

R.E.

The focus for religious studies this term will be Sikhism. We will be learning about key artefacts and practices of the Sikh religion. This year it will be important for children to learn to take part in discussions about religion, sharing their own views.

Dance and Sports

As part of their physical education, children will take part in weekly dance sessions. They will also have sports sessions every Wednesday morning so please could children come to school wearing sports clothes and trainers. During the Autumn and Spring term it is advisable for the children to also bring tracksuit pants for sports sessions.

Music

This year, children will be given the opportunity to take part in weekly trombone lessons delivered by an outside agency. They will begin to read musical notation and learn to play the trombone both individually and as part of a group. The children will also take part in class-based music lessons during which they will learn to play percussion and to sing harmonies.

Mandarin

As the children are now in Upper Key Stage 2, they will be learning read, write and speak Mandarin. These lessons will take place weekly and they will be taught by Miss

Homework - Children will be given homework each Friday and we ask for this to be returned to school the following Wednesday so that it can be marked.

Spellings - The children will be given spellings each week for a test on Thursdays. Initially the children will be given 10 spellings to learn, working up to a maximum of 20.

Assembly - the Y5 'Space' assembly will take place on Friday 6th October.