

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from the Year 5 team! We hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. This letter is to keep you informed about some of the work that the children will be doing during the spring term.

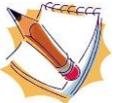
Theme - Out of This World

This Term our topic is 'Out of this World'. Within this theme the children will be learning about Space travel, life as an astronaut and our Solar System as well as discussing whether there is life on other planets. As scientists, we will be investigating key information about Planets and our Solar System. Further to this, we will be focusing on key historical figures from Space travel including Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin and comparing their experiences with modern day astronauts with a particular focus on Tim Peake. There will also be lots of space activities for the children to enjoy, including conducting our own rocket launch, using our design and technology skills and also a chance to develop their musical talents, with Space themed soundtracks and videos. We hope that the children are as excited about the theme as we are! Be sure to ask them about the topic as it progresses!



English

During this term, the children will continue to engage with a range of fantastic narrative and non-narrative texts. They will continue to develop their reading skills, by inferring and deducing answers to questions about what they have read in greater depth. In their narrative work, children will be focusing in particular on the fantasy novel Wolf Brother. They will interpret and complete work about the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Their non-narrative pieces of work will include persuasive writing and debates linked to our theme. The children will continue to write at greater length with increasing accuracy and appropriate detail across a variety of genres. Their understanding of grammar and punctuation will continue to develop as they build on their work from previous years.



Mathematics

During this term, the children will be focusing on multiplication and division. word problems, graphs and fractions.

In our multiplication unit, in the first half-term, they will learn how to multiply by a 1-digit number and then move on to multiplying 2-digit by 2-digit numbers using a variety of methods, but focusing in on the formal written method. Division learning is centred around dividing by 10, 100 and 1 000 as well as dividing up to 4-digit numbers by a single digit, including remainders. Our word problem unit is focused on strategies to approach a word problem as well as how to visually represent the maths involved to aid understanding of how to solve.

During the second half-term we will look at reading tables, involving calculating time durations, during our graphs unit, but also how to read, interpret and draw line graphs. The rest of this half-term will then be spent looking in depth at fractions. This will include: improper fractions and mixed numbers, equivalent fractions and comparing and ordering fractions. We then move on to investigating calculating with fractions, where they will cover adding and subtracting fractions as well as multiplying fractions by whole numbers.



Science

This term in Year 5 Science, children will be covering the following units:

- **Earth and Space**

The children will be learning about the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. They will understand the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. They will be taught how the Earth's rotation explains day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

- **Forces**

In this topic, children learn about the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. They identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surface and recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.



Religious Education - RE

During the first term the children will be learning to understand the Hindu belief that there is one God with many different aspects. During the second term of R.E, the children will be gaining a deeper understanding of Christianity and the beliefs around this religion.



Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

Our Jigsaw themes this year are 'Goals and Dreams and 'Healthy Me'

Children will be thinking about: Personal and Academic Goals and Targets; Aspirations and Dreams for the future; the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle, and Body image and personal health.



Physical Education - PE

In PE we will be focusing on Hockey. The other session will focus on gymnastic skills. These will take place on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. To ensure that the children always have their kit for lessons, we suggest that they bring their appropriate kit to school on a Monday and take it home to be washed on a Friday. Can we remind you that children are required to wear a white t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, or a tracksuit. Tights are not suitable for PE so please ensure that children have an extra pair of socks in their PE bag. Earrings must be taken out or covered and as in school, long hair must be tied back. Children must have a change of clothes for PE and not wear the clothes they wear during the day. If the weather is cold, they will also need appropriate footwear, which must be different from the shoes that they wear for the remainder of the day. Please support this vital area of the curriculum by helping children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school for these sessions.

ICT -

The children will have their second ICT day of the year, where they will have an opportunity to further develop their coding skills.



Homework

Children are also expected to be **reading** to an adult at least 3 times a week, and independently change their books on a regular basis, varying between home reading books and school library books to encourage a wider range of texts being read, whilst promoting a love of reading. Please log any reading in the reading diary and encourage your child to note any independent reading they do too.



Children are tested on their spellings on a weekly basis and are expected to score over 7 consistently.

In maths, taking any opportunities to ensure that your child knows their times tables up to 12×12 fluently would support their learning. Children will also be tested weekly on their timestables knowledge in order to support their fluency within arithmetic.

We will provide a homework or children/parents who request one again this half-term and next half-term. The children will receive a reward for completing the pack **fully**.

Our POWer Project this term is 'Space Race' for which children must complete 5 points worth of activities as a minimum, but they are more than welcome to do more as they explore our theme further. This is to be returned to school by Friday 16th March 2018. Please could we ask that POWer projects are not brought into school until the week commencing the 12th March 2018.

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Lewis and Mrs Holdaway

Year 5 Team