

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Year group

### Spring 2

## Mission to Mars



Welcome to Year 5! Our topic this term is Mission to Mars. Nasa has revealed its plans to try to get humans living on Mars in the next few decades. The space agency has set out a three part plan, which it hopes will eventually lead to humans living on Mars by the 2030s. Unlike the Moon, humans have never physically set foot on Mars, we've only ever used robots like the Curiosity Rover. As part of our topic students will be learning about the planets; exploring the rewards and risks of colonising Mars and the major changes humans will have to make to survive colonising a new planet.

### Goldilocks words:

*The Goldilocks words are the key vocabulary the children will learn, understand and be able to use by the end of the topic. They are called Goldilocks words as they are not too easy, not too hard, but just right!*

<b>Asteroid belt</b>	<b>Astronaut</b>	<b>Colony</b>
<b>Deimos</b>	<b>Phobos</b>	<b>Gravity</b>
<b>NASA</b>	<b>Orbit</b>	<b>Planet</b>
<b>Rotation</b>	<b>Rover</b>	<b>Terrestrial</b>

### Ideas for home learning:

- Make a 3-D model of Mars
- Design a spacecraft that will take you to Mars.
- Design, paint and create a bacterium/microbe that you have found on the surface of Mars.
- Create an instructional manual for surviving on Mars

### Key messages:

P.E. 5TL Monday and Wednesday 5NN Tuesday and Friday

(wear P.E. kit to school on P.E. days)

Bug Club reminder—please try and read every night.

## English

In English, we will be studying the book *Holes*, by Louis Sachar.

We will be using the text to create:

**Non-chronological reports**

**Diary entries in role**

**Writing letters to persuade**

**Writing postcards to inform**

We will be continuing our focus on SPaG, as well as taking part in literacy activities for World Book Week.

## Maths

For maths we will be continuing with Fractions—leading on to percentages and decimals. We will be continuing our work on times-tables and mental arithmetic.

## Religious Education

We will be looking at Christianity—focusing on Lent and other traditions during Easter.



## Science

Animals including Humans

We will:

- describe and explain the stages of human development.
- explain how babies grow and develop.
- describe and explain the main changes during Puberty.
- identify the changes that take place in old age.
- understand gestation periods.
- record complex data of life expectancy.

## Spanish

We will be continuing our greetings, numbers and colours, as well as introducing the names of foods and how to order them.

## Topic

This term, our Topic will be Mission to Mars.

One day, humans may need to leave Earth and settle on another planet. Mars is the most likely destination – a world that we believe once harboured life. Will it do so again in the future?

Other curriculum links will include:

Science— the effects of gravity, our solar system and how to grow plants and seeds as well as those suitable for Mars.

Geography— the geographical features of Mars and how we can prove there was once water there

Technology—the technology used to explore Mars, how to design a robot to explore and appropriate shelter for the Red Planet.

Physical Education—finding out how astronauts stay fit and healthy during space travel, what they eat and how they exercise.

## Physical Education

We will be doing Athletics this term, looking at sprinting technique, throwing and jumping.