



Monkton CEP School

Class 4

Newsletter

Term 1 - Stargazers

Journey through space - Monkton we have a problem!

Welcome to Class 4! This term we will take a trip to the stars, planets and suns and discover the amazing wonders of the night sky. We'll make a Solar System and investigate the cycle of day into night. Taking on the roles of the planets, we'll use movement to demonstrate the motions of the planets and moons. Then we'll make a space shuttle or satellite, testing the materials for durability, and we'll program toys to explore a lunar landscape. At the end of the project, we'll look at alien-themed comics, invent our own aliens and consider the big question: Why is there life on Earth? Finally, we'll invite you to our 'Visitors' centre' and share our knowledge with you.

Maths

In this first term we will be focusing on developing our understanding of place value, moving onto methods for addition and subtraction and then multiplication and division by the end of the term.

We will also be focusing on our times tables, ensuring we are fluent in all tables up to 12 and can recall them (and the inverse) at speed.

Science

Our topic in science is Earth and Space. We will cover a range of topics including: day and night; the lunar cycle; the planets and why they have craters; as well as how we know the Earth is round.

English

In English, we will begin the term exploring the alien planet of Pandora, creating aliens and writing non-chronological reports on them. Our core text is *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce and by the end of the term we will write a sci-fi narrative based on a journey into space.

ICT

In Computing we will be learning how to stay safe online. We will also be exploring programming by sequencing a series of instructions for programmable toys in order to complete lunar missions.

RE

In Term 1 we will be learning about Muslims. We will be investigating what it means to be a Muslim in Britain today.

PE

The children will work with Team Theme on a Thursday afternoon, playing football and working on fitness.

Foundation subjects

History- The life and works of Galileo

Geography- Using ISS images to learn about the physical geography of Earth.

Art- Artist study of Peter Thorpe to create rocket art.

Design Technology- Moon phase wall hangings

French - The weather

PSHE- TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More)

Vocabulary

Below are some words that the children will come across during their learning that they might be unfamiliar with that you might like to help them understand:

axis

comet

crater

free fall

meteoroid

Jovian planet

observatory

orbit

orrery

satellite

terrestrial planet zero gravity

Websites

<https://trockstars.com/>- Times Table Rock Stars

www.bbc.co.uk/education (BBC Bitesize)

www.theschoolrun.com

nrich.maths.org.com

www.topmarks.co.uk

www.mad4maths.com

Special days/ Come join us

- Dates for diaries: PE is on a Thursday PM; Homework - new spellings and times tables will be handed out each Monday, then tested on the following week on a Monday.
- Mon 13th September- Roald Dahl Day- welcome to come in dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl character or in his favourite colour- yellow
- Thursday 30th September- Individual and Family Group Photos
- Date to be confirmed- Parents/carers welcome to join us in Class 3 to celebrate and share in our hard work for our topic- Heroes and Villains
- Fri 22nd October- end of term