

St Thomas More R.C. Primary – Early Years  
What I am Learning – Spring 1: Space



Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication & Language	<p>This half term we will be continuing to develop our listening skills through circle time activities and our focused carpet sessions. We will be talking about our topic Space, and exploring, developing an understanding and using new vocabulary linked to our 'Space' theme. We will be encouraging the children to describe events, ask questions to further their own understanding and use the new vocabulary that they have learnt. We will be using a number of key texts throughout the half term linked to our theme and we will be encouraging the children to describe characters and settings.</p>	Mathematics	<p>Nursery - We will be continuing our daily maths sessions following the White Rose Maths Scheme. This half term we will be focussing on continuing with the early stages of seeing quantities of numbers (subitising), counting and labelling amounts and exploring position and routes.</p> <p>Reception - We will continue our daily maths sessions following the NCETM scheme. This half term we will be focussing on subitising, showing quantities, number recognition and ordering numerals, more than/fewer than and partitioning numbers.</p>
Physical Development	<p>We will be continuing to focus upon develop the children's fine and gross motor skills through our Dough Disco, Wiggle me into a Squiggler and Squiggle while you Wiggle sessions and through different activities linked to our theme.</p> <p>Linking with our key texts, we will explore different foods and how to keep our teeth and bodies healthy. We will be using different malleable materials to support our topic work, e.g. Moon Sand. For Reception children, our PE our focus will be 'Basic Movements and Dance.'</p>	Understanding the World	<p>We will continue to look at changes in our environment and seasonal changes and explore 'Winter' (hopefully we will have some snow and chilly conditions for some ice investigations!)</p> <p>We will also be exploring simple maps (linking with our theme and key texts) and using technology and software to look at maps and explore them in detail. We will be creating our own simple maps in a variety of ways.</p> <p>We will research and find out information about our theme 'Space' and look at rocket launches, moon walks, research astronauts, space craft, planets, the Solar System etc to find out about our theme and keep 'up to date' with the latest Space developments.</p> <p>We will also celebrate Chinese New Year at the end of January, we will find out more about this festival and how and why it is celebrated.</p>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<p>We will continue to reinforce our positive class rules and boundaries. We will continue with circle time activities, modelling positive behaviours/friendships and discussing different aspects of our feelings. We will continue to explore our three school rules in more detail - Ready, Respectful &amp; Safe and introduce our daily Recognition Board.</p> <p>Through our Religion work, we will be exploring the Epiphany, the Presentation Story, discussing how the Parish Family celebrates, how the Parish family gather for Mass, and we will also discuss the joy of gathering to listen to God's Word</p>	Expressive Arts & Design	<p>We will be experimenting with different materials and creative techniques this half term. We will be creating aliens, crating signs for an Alien Parade and explore how we can 'junk model' our creations. In Music, we will listen to Holst's Planet Suite and create pieces of artwork in response to the music. We will also look at musical composition and create pieces of music for our Alien Parade.</p> <p>We will also be exploring some 'Chinese New Year' themed artwork, creating crowns to celebrate the Epiphany and we will also be creating some 'Valentines' themed artwork.</p>

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<p>Literacy</p>	<p>We will be exploring lots of key texts (Fiction and non-fiction) during this half term linked to our theme. We will be talking about stories, the characters, settings and making comparisons. We will also be focussing on learning lots of new words linked to our theme. We will be exploring different mark making and writing opportunities this half term linked to our theme e.g. designing and labelling a rocket and mark making/writing about what we would take to Space!</p> <p>Nursery children will continue indiscreet phonics - Phase 1, focussing on exploring 'body percussion.'</p> <p>Reception children will continue with their daily RWI Phonics sessions - links to the RWI Virtual Classroom sessions to support the daily lesson added to Tapestry weekly.</p>	<p>RE</p>	<p>During this half term, we will be exploring the Epiphany, the Presentation Story, discussing how the Parish Family celebrates, how the Parish family gather for Mass and we will also discuss the joy of gathering to listen to God's Word</p>
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