



# Year 5 Spring Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We hope that you had a great Christmas holiday! The children have really wowed us with the quality of the work they produced in their first full term and we look forward to seeing this continue throughout the rest of Year 5.

## Curriculum

Our topic focus for this next half term will be Science where the children will answer the enquiry question, 'Is There Life On Mars?' We will endeavour to link as much learning as possible in other subjects to this topic.

## English

Our English work will mainly be linked to our Space topic. The children will enjoy reading the class text *Cosmic* and writing a range of fiction and non-fiction genres based on this. Spelling, punctuation and grammar will continue to be of high importance within the daily English lessons with objectives from previous year groups constantly rehearsed alongside the teaching of new material. Daily guided reading lessons will give children the opportunity to practise key skills such as retrieval and inference through a wide range of fiction and non-fiction text types and poetry. Children also read for pleasure as part of daily DEAR Time (Drop Everything and Read) where they have the chance to quietly enjoy their own reading book or explore an educational newspaper, poetry book or topic book.

## Maths

Maths will continue to follow the White Rose framework and the children will experience a range of fluency questions, reasoning and problem-solving activities and investigations. Children will continue to build upon the content around multiplication, division and fractions in the Spring term, as well as exploring new content such as decimals, percentages and statistics. A solid understanding of times tables facts (including related division facts) continues to be integral to success in all areas of the Maths curriculum so any support you can give your child with securing their knowledge of times tables would benefit them greatly in school.

## Science

Our Science topic for this half term will be Space. Children will have the opportunity to be physicists, exploring the make-up of our solar system, how day and night occur, conflicting theories and time zones. At all times, children will be encouraged to ask scientific questions, support their ideas with evidence and justify their conclusions with scientific thinking.

## Computing

The Computing focus for this half term is two-fold as we will cover content around Digital Literacy and Computer Science. We will firstly explore online reputation and how information that is posted online may not always be accurate. Children will also develop their computer science skills by using programs such as Lightbot and Tynker to develop algorithms and create working code. The key messages of online safety will also be reinforced in discrete lessons, in Circle Time, across the wider curriculum and as part of Safer Internet Day on 7<sup>th</sup> February.

## Art/D&T

Art and D&T will be linked to our Space topic theme. In Art, children will be exploring and recreating the work of Kandinsky and in D&T, children will design and construct their very own rockets!

## Music

Mr Newton will be delivering the music sessions each week to both classes and has planned cross-curricular lessons focussing on

## PSHCE

The theme for weekly PSHCE lessons is Caring and Responsibility where we will learn about differing care needs as we progress through life, feelings of loneliness and the importance of volunteering. Weekly Circle Time sessions on a Friday will reinforce the key messages from PSHCE lessons. These sessions will also provide the opportunity to discuss such topics as how to manage conflict in real life and online, and children will also have a space where they can offer advice to one another and celebrate one another's successes.

## PE

P.E. will take place every week (on a Wednesday afternoon) with sessions this term covering badminton, tennis, athletics and cricket. These sessions will be outdoors (weather permitting). Please ensure appropriate footwear is worn to school.

## Homework:

Paper copies of the homework will be handed out each **Friday** and are to be returned by the following **Friday**. This will be a combination of Maths, Reading and SPaG, with the occasional writing challenge too. As per school policy, if homework is not completed, without prior reason, then the children will complete it in their Golden Time. The weekly homework affords an opportunity to consolidate and deepen learning in Maths and English topics covered in school. Any misconceptions and areas for development from the homework will be discussed with children in class. We would also encourage children to read as much as possible at home during the week, and where possible, update their reading records.

## Golden Time

Golden Time takes place on a Friday afternoon for twenty minutes and rewards those children who have followed our school Golden Rules throughout the week. Golden Time is planned for, with activities suggested by the children themselves.

## Prime Time

Please make sure the children have a named water bottle in school for Prime Time. They may also bring a small healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or breadsticks) to eat during Prime Time if they wish.

We cannot wait for another term of fantastic learning in Year 5! Please view our Twitter feed on the school website to keep up to date with current learning and events.

Year 5 Team