

Stargazers and Space

This term we are learning...

English

Our writing focus this half term is Non-Fiction and our model text is a Newspaper report about Space. We will be identifying the features of a Newspaper report: a headline, facts, paragraphs, photographs, captions, introductory paragraph, direct / indirect speech and a concluding paragraph (bringing it into present tense). We will also look at how to use cohesive devices to link paragraphs. We will read and analyse other Newspaper reports, identifying key features and then use these within our planning. Pupils will then write their own Newspaper report about a famous Space mission.

Our grammar and punctuation work this half term will focus on: direct and indirect speech, cohesive devices to link paragraphs, passive and active voice and relative clauses; as well as consolidating all the grammar and punctuation learned in the previous year.

We will continue learning Year 3/4 statutory spellings but focusing mainly on Year 5/6 statutory spellings.

Daily, there will be opportunities to develop reading skills, inference, and comprehension during our reading sessions, which will be based on the fiction texts: 'Cloud Busting' by Malorie Blackman and 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce, together with winter/festive themed poetry.

Maths

Fractions

Children are familiar with the idea of equivalent fractions from earlier study. In Year 5, we focus on how unit fractions can be expressed in other forms. It is important that children use a variety of representations, including fractions of shapes, number lines and fraction walls as well as the abstract form, so that they understand the relationships. They complement this conceptual understanding by using their times-table knowledge to find missing numerators or denominators, working both horizontally and vertically. Children move on to find fractions equivalent to non-unit fractions and use this learning throughout the block.

Objectives covered:

- Find fractions equivalent to a unit and non-unit fraction and recognise equivalent fractions.
- Convert improper fractions to mixed numbers and convert mixed numbers to improper fractions.
- Compare and order fractions less than 1/greater than 1.
- Add fractions with the same denominator.
- Add fractions within 1/with a total greater than 1.
- Add to a mixed number/add two mixed numbers.
- Subtract fractions (including from a mixed number-breaking the whole).

We will also be consolidating prior learning from Autumn 1.

Topic - Science / History

In topic, we will be investigating why the Earth, Sun and Moon are spherical bodies and we will also be looking at the planets in the solar system, describing the movement of the earth relative to the sun. We will be studying the movement of the moon relative to the earth and using the ideas of the earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. As a standalone History project, in line with remembrance day, we will also be researching about the 'Home Front' and 'war effort' during the time of World War I and II.

Art/ D&T

We will be looking the work of abstract space artist, Peter Thorpe and creating a rocket scene in his style using complementary colours from the colour wheel with paint and chalk.

There will also be opportunities for festive crafts.

RE: Our question this half term is 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' We will be looking at the ways in which Jesus is a saviour and thinking of Jesus' birth and the true meaning of Christmas.

Music: We will be completing the Classroom Jazz unit on Charanga, alongside the Space unit.

PSHE/SRE

In PSHE we are focusing on 'Anti-bullying.' Week 2 is Anti-bullying week, the class will be studying the text 'Cloud Busting' which will allow for discussion and learning around the effects of bullying and how to challenge such behaviours. In SRE we will be looking at positive role models.

Spanish: we will look at classroom commands, places in town and different shops with a festive link.

PE: Will continue on a Wednesday afternoon at the Leisure Centre with Primary Stars and Miss Austin- Hockey and Basketball .

Computing: Pupils will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices including looking at how search engines work on the internet.