

English: We are Readers and Authors

Writing: This half term we will be focusing on developing children's knowledge and understanding of grammatical structures within our language. Alongside this, we will also have a daily focus on transcriptional elements of writing such as handwriting and spelling. Writing lessons will consist of practical activities to teach children about syntax, word classes and punctuation to ensure that all children can accurately identify sentence boundaries. Our first independent write will explore the features of a non-chronological report and link with our Enquiry topic.

Reading: Our class reader will be *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce.

Spelling: In class, we continue to focus on irregular verbs and will be practising these daily. We will continue weekly dictation and begin to focus on morphological spelling patterns.

Handwriting: cursive letter strings and statutory words.

How can you help at home? Read, hear your child read aloud and discuss what they are reading. Spelling lists will be issued on a fortnightly basis. These words come from the statutory Year 5/6 list and we require children to practise these. Please talk through the spelling list and help your child to understand their meaning and use the words in context.

PE: We are Athletes

Outdoor Games: Basketball **Indoor PE:** Dance

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day.

5/6 Curie – Monday and Wednesday

5/6 Turing – Tuesday and Thursday

5/6 Malala - Monday and Tuesday

RE: We are Philosophers

This half term, we will be focusing on Christianity and looking at where did the Church begin, and where is it now?

Ask your child:

What have you been today?

How have you been a mathematician or an author today?

What have you enjoyed being today?

Year 5 and 6 Enquiry

Autumn 1

What does the Earth look like from the solar system?

Important dates:

Tues 9th Sept, 3:30pm: Welcome meeting
Weds 17th Sept: Winchester Science Centre trip
Fri 19th Sept: NSPCC Workshop
Mon 22nd Sept: Online and screen safety workshop
Fri 26th Sept: Macmillan coffee morning/lesson drop in
Mon 6th Oct: Harvest Service led by Revd Jane (parents invited)
8th -10th Oct: Y6 residential: High Ashurst
Fri 24th Oct: INSET day

Enquiry **States of being: Scientist, geographer & artist**

This enquiry is centred around exploring the awe and wonder of the Earth and the beauty of the planet (as seen from the solar system) and using this as a stimulus for art as other artists have done. This enquiry culminates with an exciting and immersive challenge; children will be creating their own space documentary using green screen technology.

How can you help at home? Support your child to keep a moon diary – how is the moon changing over the month? Listen to *The Planets* by Holst – how is each planet represented?

Maths: We are Mathematicians

Both Year 5 and 6 will be focusing on the place value of numbers as well as formal and informal methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children will also tackle mathematical challenges, applying their skills where they will need to show a positive mindset and resilience. We will also focus on the children's understanding and use of mathematical language in their written mathematical explanations.

How can you help at home?

Ensure quick recall of number facts and mental calculation are practised and used in context. E.g. Adding running totals, calculating change and offers. Continue to practice times tables at home as these are the foundations of many concepts within maths. Encourage maths-based games at home:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/hit-the-button>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39>

Computing: We are Engineers

In this unit, we will start to create vector drawings. We will be able to recognise that images in vector drawings are created using shapes and lines, and each individual element in the drawing is called an object. We will then layer objects and begin grouping and duplicating them to support the creation of more complex pieces of work.

Wellbeing: We are Philosophers

This half term, we will be looking at relationships, values and customs through the book 'Mum and Dad Glue' by Kes Gray.

French: We are Linguists

This half term, the children will be reviewing numbers to 20 and then learning new greetings.



Year 5 and 6 Learning at Home: Autumn 1: What does the Earth look like from the solar system?

Weekly Non-Negotiables

Read five times a week with an adult. Ask an adult to sign your reading record every time you read.

Practice your spellings at least three times a week on Spelling Shed.

Learn your times tables and associated facts at least three times a week on Times Table Rock Stars or on paper. Get a parent to record this in your homework diary.



Recommended Reads:

Lights on Cotton Rock by David Litchfield

Lunar by Chris Bradford

Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson put Astronauts on the Moon by Helaine Becker

The Kid who came from Space by Ross Welford

Optional Homework:

Record your own moon diary. Note how the moon changes over a month. Why might this be?



Optional Homework:

Build your own sun dial. All you need is a paper plate, a pencil and, of course, a sunny day to get started. Handy instructions linked here:

[How To Make A Sundial - Little Bins for Little Hands](#)



Optional Homework:

Create a 3D model of our solar system.

Can you be creative and use any re-used or recycled materials to represent the planets?



Optional Homework:

Write an astronaut biography.

Create an engaging, inspiring and informative biography of a famous astronaut. Can you amaze us with facts we didn't already know?



Please bring any optional homework, which you wish to share with your teacher or class, into school by: **Friday 11th October 2025**