

**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?

## Year 5 and 6 Enquiry

### Autumn 1

What does the Earth look like from the solar system?

## **Important dates:**

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, 3:30pm: Welcome meeting

Weds 17<sup>th</sup> Sept: Winchester Science Centre trip

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Sept: NSPCC Workshop

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept: Online and screen safety workshop

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Sept: Macmillan coffee morning/lesson drop in

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Oct: Harvest Service led by Revd Jane (parents invited)

8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Oct: Y6 residential: High Ashurst

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> 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/maths-games/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.

*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 Learning at Home: Autumn 1: What does the Earth look like from the solar system?

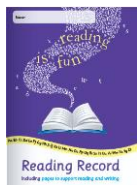
### Weekly Non-Negotiables

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.

**Spelling Shed** 



### 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 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025**