

## Website Update

In Hodgkin Class (Year 5), we fully embrace the new Primary Strategy and through it we teach a wide, interesting and challenging curriculum. Our projects are influenced by the children's interests, and highly skilled teaching ensures full coverage of the National Curriculum objectives across the year and over time. Our projects run for the entire term and involve exciting opportunities including trips, visitors, engineering days, 'Wow Days' and dress-up days.

Our Project this term is 'Out of this World', and is a study of the solar system and all things related. Our Big Question is, 'How will life change over the next 20 years, what new things will be invented?'

We will start the term off with a study of the planets and the solar system, learning their order and their individual characteristics. Before moving onto the constellations of the stars - linking with Greek Mythology.

Our Superb Starter will be a DT design and build day, when the children will be given a series of team challenges to complete over a day, using Lego and Knex. The challenges will be to design and construct moon buggies, landing rockets and space centres.

Our Mix it up middle will be a star gazing evening when we will invite the children back into class in the evening once it is dark to complete some star gazing. We will use telescopes and Apps to identify the constellations, planets and possibly even have some hot chocolate and a hotdog!

Our Enthralling Ending will be a trip to the Leicester Space Centre and visiting their amazing planetarium and space museum, which will support the learning that has already taken place in the classroom and further embed the love of all things 'Out of this World'.

Across the term we have a range of texts we will be studying and these include 'The Jamie Drake Equation' and 'The kid who came from outer space', both of these contain families, aliens, conflict and a resolution, and I am really looking forward to reading them to the children.

Our learning environment is going to be 'Space' as you would expect with a Space station, a section inside a rocket, a lunar landscape and lots of stars and planets.

There will be many opportunities for cross-curricular writing such as in Science experiments, in Geography and especially in History when we look at the moon landings, Richard Branson's recent trip to space, and the evolution of technology which relies so heavily on the hundreds of satellites orbiting the planet.

In English we will be looking at a variety of genres of writing including diary entries, persuasive letter writing, non-chronological reports, newspapers, playscripts and Film narratives and many more. We will also have a two-week block of Poetry creating several pieces of poetry and performing the Charge of the Light Brigade poem as a Key Stage.

We teach maths in practical and exciting ways to deepen the children's understanding, ensuring that the children master the skills with fluency, being able to use, reason and apply their skills, thus providing a solid foundation to build on in Year 6. Our Maths will mostly be standalone, however there are several times where we can work cross-curricular including looking at tables and data on the sizes and distances of the planets, a holiday to space costings and the exchange rate of the UK Pound and Alien Dollar!

This topic contains lots of opportunities for Science and, as well as Space, we will also be looking at the forces which act on us - such as: magnetism, gravity, upthrust, water and air resistance and friction. During our several DT sessions we will be learning about designing, making, and evaluating builds such as The International Space Station (ISS), space rockets, moon buggies and star constellations. During these lessons we will also use a variety of materials including Lego, K-Nex and recycled materials, and also use technology to create programs to move aliens around a lunar landscape. In Art we will continue to build up our sketch book work looking at various artists like Van Gogh's starry night and making some mixed media work, collage work and some fine pencil work. We will also be studying Bridget Riley's work in the Op Art movement as they are optical illusions and look very futuristic.

Our PE topics for the term include Tag-Rugby, athletics, striking and fielding games, and as much running around the running track as we can manage! We will teach our RE through a series of Curriculum days, this term we will learn

about Christianity looking at what the 10 commandments are, and if they are still relevant today and then in the second half term looking at Hinduism, reading the story of Krishna and how pilgrimages are an important part of a Hindu's religion.

In Hodgkin Class we always ensure that the children have an amazing and fun experience, creating memories that will stay with the children for a lifetime. This is an absolutely packed topic and I am so looking forward to teaching it, and enjoying our lovely outdoor space as much as we can.