

## Earthlings Curriculum Newsletter - Spring 1 2019

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you have all had a fantastic break and are ready to blast off with our new topic focused around space.

Thank you so much for the kind gifts that I received at Christmas, they were very much appreciated.

### English

We will study the science-fiction genre, focusing on the book *Cosmic*, exploring and using the features to create our own science-fiction texts.

We will also look at a range of information texts to research various aspects of our space topic. We will hopefully create some pieces of text that will link together to form an information book.

**How you can help:** whilst your child is reading to you, encourage them to locate challenging vocabulary, discuss the meaning with them and get them to use it in their own sentence; talk about the story so far and make predictions using clues in the text; encourage them to say why they think or believe in something using words such as 'because'; continue to learn spellings with your child making it fun by using the activities sheet that I have sent home; talk about the ideas and learning on your child's reading bookmark.

### Maths

We will begin by developing our knowledge of number and will focus especially on getting a good grasp of decimals. We will focus on multiplication and division and will do some fractions as well. We will continue to learn our times tables, but will focus on more problem style questions.

**How you can help:** continue to learn the times tables with your child and get them involved with as much real world problem solving as possible. They can help you to work out costs and change when out and about, help them to see shapes and patterns as you travel around and help them to learn key facts such as how many centimetres are in a metre and what a prime number is. Mathsframe has some good activities, many of which are free and I also like multiplication.com because it has some really fun games that can be customised.

[www.mathsframe.co.uk](http://www.mathsframe.co.uk)

[www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com)

[www.activelearnprimary.com](http://www.activelearnprimary.com)

### R.E.

Our overall theme this half-term is 'Ourselves'. We will talk about family in terms of society and the family of God and link scripture to everyday living and what God and Jesus teach us. We will also look specifically at some of the Beatitudes.

## Science

We will focus on being able to describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system; describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth, describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies and use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

## Art

We will explore some artists who have been inspired by landscapes and will use our knowledge and skills to create some 'new world' landscapes using different mediums. We will explore shadows and tone to create some monochrome artwork of the moon.

## P.E.

On Monday afternoons, we will continue our dance. Our focus will be creating a group dance to the tune 'Food, Glorious Food'. This will involve learning some dance moves, improvising and creating our own, following a beat and working well with others. We will finish by performing and evaluating our own and others' work.

On Wednesday afternoons, we will be doing Gymnastics. We will focus on developing our skills of travelling, jumping, rolling and balancing and will create sequences with a partner exploring matching and mirroring on different pieces of equipment.

## Computing

We will use CAD software to explore how computers can be used to design in 3D and what the benefits to using computers are. We will have a go at making some 3D designs for futuristic homes and robots and hopefully bring them into the real world.

## Modern Foreign Language - French

Year 5 will continue to be taught French by Mrs. Spacey on Friday mornings.

## Music

Year 5 will continue to be taught by Mrs. Mallinson, our music specialist on Friday mornings.

## **Homework**

### Reading

Year 5 children should be reading every day, either independently or to an adult. This should be recorded in their Home School Record as page numbers and initialled by an adult.

### Spellings

Children will be given spellings each Friday for a test the following Friday. Spellings are copied into their spelling book and need to be learnt. Playing games is a good way to make learning spellings fun. (See the spelling games sheet). Please make sure that spelling books are in every Friday.

### English and Maths

English and Maths homework will be given on a Friday to be in the following Friday. The homework will be based on work done in class that week and you should not spend more than 20-30 minutes on each piece.

### Times tables

On Fridays, children will be told which times table they will be tested on the following Friday. They should learn the table through the week, extending into decimals and larger numbers if they become very secure in their knowledge.

Please come in to see me after school if you have any issues or concerns, or make an appointment through the office.

Thank you.

Mr. Knight