

Foundation Subjects

This half term we will be using our History topic of 'The Great Space Race' and the 1969 Moon Landing as a big focus for other learning.

History – Children will learn to study the life of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international events and how they fit within a chronological framework.

Geography – This half term will focus on 'wonderful weather'. Children will learn about daily and seasonal weather patterns in the context of the weather of the UK and its effect on us. They will also find out about the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Pole to understand what hot and cold countries are like.

RE – We will be discussing what it means to belong to a group and what it means for Christian and Muslim people to belong to their church or mosque.

Music – Children will be exploring the duration of sounds made by instruments and developing their ability to play long and short sounds and simple rhythms.

Games – Children will continue to develop ball skills including movement and control when rolling, receiving, throwing, bouncing and catching.

You can help by talking to your child about the work they are doing and supporting home-school work.

Maths

We have begun learning about addition and will be moving onto subtraction soon. Children are developing their understanding of the symbols and related vocabulary. + (plus, add, put together, more) and = (equal to, altogether, total, whole). They have learned how to both read and write an addition sentence e.g. $4 + 2 = 6$ using numbers within a total of ten. We will be moving onto number bonds within and to ten then learning about subtraction and how to read and write subtraction sentences using – and =.

You could support your child by continuing to encourage their numeral formation practice – this is a biggie as we are still getting lots of numbers reversed. Also working on quick re-call of number bonds to ten (all the ways they can make 10). Practicing additions in different ways e.g. using pennies, two pence or five pence coins and adding the values of two different coins or rolling a dice twice and using the numbers to write a number sentence. Please note, we provide children with manipulatives to support their practical addition and subtraction so things like buttons, pasta shapes or (at this time of year) conkers or acorns would help them.

Autumn Term

Year 1

Earth and Beyond

Vision - To be a community of confident, creative learners thriving together in a rich, inclusive environment that raises the aspirations of each unique child

Science

Science – Work will focus on animals this half term. Children will be identifying and naming a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. They will learn about which are herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and will classify and compare different animals.

You can help your child with this by encouraging them to share non-fiction texts about animals, watch documentaries about animals (there are some great David Attenborough ones on iPlayer) or even doing some research on the internet about animals they are interested in.

English

We will be sharing lots more stories, this term with a focus on or set in space. Some of our class reads will be 'Here We Are, The Marvellous Moon Map and Beegu'. We will be looking at the settings of the stories, characters and the main events.

We will also be discussing the structure of stories – what happens in the beginning, middle, end.

The children will be developing their sentence construction by verbally rehearsing them before, during and after writing, use of spaces between words and how to demarcate sentences using full stops and capital letters.

We will also be looking at non-fiction information and the features of it such as contents, headings, sub-headings and factual information when learning about non-chronological reports and the first moon landing.

You can support your child by encouraging them to use their letters and sounds to write, write, write. Could they write the shopping list to help or maybe they could write a little message in their Christmas card to a family member.

Like maths, letter formation practice is always useful. A page in the appendix in the Phonic booklet sent out before half term shows how we teach this.

We hope they are enjoying their Bug Worlds as much as they enjoy sessions in school. Your support and encouragement in their use of this and the phonic books we send each week is invaluable to their continued reading journey. A little practice every day really does go a long way!

The Notice Board

- We are really struggling helping children take care of belongings as many are still un-named. Please, please, could you make sure any clothing they bring in has a name on (even hats, gloves and scarves).
- Save the date: **9th December** – we have an exciting surprise on the way!
- Forest school continues but the weather really has changed so we ask you make sure children are layered up to keep warm.
- W/c 14th November – Book Fair to be held in school. More TBA later.
- Monday 5th December – INSET – School closed