

Year 5/6 Spring 1: Tomorrow's World

Dear Parents,

We cannot believe autumn term is over already. We have had an incredible start to the year and the children have stepped up to the challenges of Upper Key Stage 2. We were really pleased with the determination that the children showed during their practice tests before Christmas.

We loved taking the children to Harry Potter studios where they made incredible memories to enhance their theme in school. We look forward to continuing to make more memories this half term when the mobile planetarium comes to visit us in a couple of weeks! On this page you will find information about the upcoming theme 'Tomorrow's World and Beyond'.

Thank you for all of your support this term. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are enjoying getting back into a routine!

As always, please email any of us if you have anything you would like us to know or need support with.

Kind regards,

The year 5/6 team (Miss Stanton & Mrs Barker, Miss Hutchings, Mr Jones and Miss Scott)

Theme

This half term we will be getting a visit from a mobile planetarium and from here children will develop their science knowledge of space by looking at the earth and moon in relation to the sun, how we have day and night and the different seasons. Children will investigate why it looks like the sun moves over the course of a day and even create their own sundials to keep track of time! Children will build on their DT skills by planning, designing and making a moving representation of the solar system using a pulley system (orrery). In art, children will create a mixed media collaborative piece using artwork of Peter Thorpe and David Hardy as inspiration. The children always love this theme and we can't wait to share their outcomes with you!



Key notices:

- Please continue with the excellent homelearning we have seen produced so far in Year 5/6. We have been blown away by the effort from a lot of the children and this is excellent preparation for a smooth transition to Secondary school! We will start with home learning on **Friday 5th January**.
- **PE days are now the following:**
Rabbits: Tuesday and **Thursday (change!)**
Hedgehogs: Tuesday and **Thursday (change!)**
Eagle: Wednesday and Friday
Woodpecker: Monday and Friday
- **We would like to invite you into school so the children can share their outcomes from this theme this will be: **Wednesday 21st February 2024****

English:

Children will write a range of text types that link to a range of work by HG Wells. They will write a range of descriptive narratives, a non-fiction report, a Tim Peake style diary and a published Artemis report.

Maths:

We will be focussing on developing the children's understanding of measurement, geometry and consolidating arithmetic skills.

Reminder

Please can we remind families that we should be in winter uniform now: shirts and trousers. We are also seeing a rising number of children wearing trainers to school, this is not part of the uniform and children should be wearing appropriate school shoes.

Year 5/6 Home Learning

Mr Jones will be continuing to run a home learning club on a Wednesday lunchtime, if your child wishes to attend.

There is also an additional sheet of 'project-based' learning that your child can complete if you wish them to. Please encourage them to bring any outcomes in if they do

Spellings

These will be sent home every **Friday** and tested the **following Friday**.

There will be between 8-10 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class.

Please continue to encourage your child to use spelling shed to consolidate their understanding of the rules taught in class. We have seen an excellent improvement in those children who are using spelling shed regularly!

Maths

Maths Home learning will be printed out for their home learning books on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Thursday/Friday.

The tasks that are set will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in Maths.

English

English Home learning will be printed out for their home learning books on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Thursday/Friday.

This will either be a writing, punctuation, grammar or reading task that usually links to what we are covering in class.

Reading – This year we are really promoting a love of reading as it underpins all learning.

We expect the children to be reading 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be to an adult and **this needs to be recorded and signed in the planner every week**. We are happy for you to read to your child, share audio books, take turns in reading pages etc but the most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

WE WILL BE COLLECTING IN ALL PLANNERS ON A MONDAY TO LOOK AT THE LEARNING THAT HAS HAPPENED AT HOME AND WILL RETURN THESE TO THE CHILDREN ON TUESDAY.

Helping at Home

Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child over the next half term to support the learning at school

Practise:

Spelling tests will take place on a Monday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's rules with them and the spellings they are learning. In the back of their planners is a list of words they should be able to spell in KS2.

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details. Once completed, please can this be ticked off in your child's planner.

Talk and explore (Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term)

- What are the planets in the solar system?
- What is the difference between a planet and a star?
- Why does the moon change shape?
- Why is it hotter in summer than in winter?
- How can we use materials to make moving objects?
- How does the earth move around the sun?

Play

Children can access the following to develop their space knowledge.

<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/menu/play/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zrd9wmn>

https://www.esa.int/kids/en/Games/Solar_System_Explorer

Read

Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. When reading, please make a note in their planners.

DT/ science

Make your own homemade shoebox solar system and bring it in to show your teacher!



Year 5/6 – Tomorrow's world

Ideas for Home Learning to Further Support Your Child



DT

Make your own biscuits and decorate as planets in our solar system



Art

Complete some astronaut space art to bring in to support your art project in school



DT / science

Create your own rockets to propel into the air. Investigate what is the perfect ratio of baking soda to vinegar. Can you find any thing else that makes it fizz? (vitamin C tablet, diet coke, Mentos etc...) Film your experiment and upload to seesaw!



PE

Design an astronaut bootcamp and share the training programme with your class mates!

