



Dear Parent / Guardian,

Welcome back! We are looking forward to beginning our first topic this year. This term we will be exploring the world and beyond as we investigate the question: *would you like to go on holiday to the moon?*

To begin, your child will be looking at what people look for in holidays. After studying the top ten holiday destinations for British people and exploring reasons why these destinations are so popular, we will look at different climate zones and human and physical features of different countries. Once we have studied our planet, we will then be travelling to space. This will involve studying the movement of the planets, the sun and the moon and how this results in day and night and the different seasons.

In art lessons, children will be creating their own space pictures using chalk. This unit will focus on how to create tone and texture to make planets look three dimensional.

In English we will be reading *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* which is set in Indonesia (allowing us to explore another world country that the children may be unfamiliar with). This text will allow us to look at rich and varied vocabulary and write descriptions of events and settings as well as focussing on developing reading skills. This topic will have a great range of cross-curricular writing as our science allows the children to work on explanation texts about the solar system and seasons. Towards the end of the topic, the children will also be answering the investigation question and writing a persuasive piece to encourage someone to visit the moon.

In maths, we will be focusing on place value this half term. This will involve being able to read, write and order numbers to a million as well as rounding any of these numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10000 and 100000. Children will then be moving on to study negative numbers in context and we will also be looking at roman numerals to 1000. Every week children will also be completing arithmetic lessons focusing on number and calculation.

Please ensure that your child has an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school. Children will need an outdoor PE kit on Tuesdays for Tag Rugby. Class 10 will also need an indoor PE kit on a Friday for gymnastics. Class 9 will be completing Bikeability on a Friday. Children will only need trainers for this but can change into a PE kit if desired.

Two pieces of homework (one maths activity and one spelling activity) will be sent home every Friday. These are to be completed and handed in the following Wednesday. This year the children will have a 'Star Books Loyalty Card'. Children need to bring their Home Contact books in on a Friday signed to say they have been reading at home to earn loyalty points. As it is so important to develop reading stamina and fluency, we encourage the children to read daily.



Please continue to read the online newsletter available on the school website for up-and-coming events. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Stokell and Miss Boyd

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