

# Areas of Learning for 'Star Trekking Across the Universe'

## Science

As scientists, we will be learning about the earth and space. We will look at the shape of the earth, time zones, shadows and days and years on earth and other planets. We will also look in depth at sunrise and sunset and how this will change according to the earth's tilt and position in its orbit; as well as the planets in our solar systems, moons and star constellations. The second half of the term, we will be focusing on forces and how to measure them, including friction. We will also be considering the direction of a force and its effect on the motion of an object.

## Life Skills (Citizenship and PSHE)

In PSHE, we will be covering the topics: Going for Goals and Good to be me. We will also be continuing to work with the university on the student bank scheme which has now been rolled out across the school, with Year 5 and 6 responsible for leading it.

## Global Learning

As part of our RE and PSHE work, we will be focusing on global diversity. For example, in RE, we will consider Sikh teachings such as justice and service to others. We will link these to our own values and what is important to our personal identities. We will continue to explore this idea in our PSHE work, as well as considering our social connections.

## D&T and Art

In D&T, we will be making a mechanical model linked to our theme. We will be using cams to ensure that it moves. We will also be using skills such as sawing and joining. In Art, we will be improving our painting skills and carrying out an artist study linked to space.

## PE

In outdoor PE, we will be doing some striking and fielding games, followed by athletics. Both classes will continue to have PE on a Thursday afternoon. In indoor PE, we will be doing Real PE, focusing on creative skills when playing seated volleyball and scorpion handball. In the second half term, we will move onto gymnastics. Indoor PE for both classes will still be on a Wednesday. Over the holidays, please check that your child's PE kit still fits, is clearly labelled and then ensure they have it in school everyday in case of changes (i.e. due to the weather).

## Computing

In Computing, we will be creating our own green screen space films/documentaries. We will be using green screen technology to project ourselves into space so we will plan our own films using a story board. We are hoping to go and watch these at the cinema when they are finished. This may be in the summer term.

## Geography and History

As geographers, we will be focusing on time zones and lines of longitude and latitude. As historians, we will be looking at historical space explorations, such as the moon landing. We will also be looking at astronauts and space travel, linking to Tim Peake who went to the International Space Station last year.

## Music

As musicians, we will be continuing with our African drumming and composing our own rhythms. After half term, we will be preparing for the Easter production.

## Religious Education

In religious education, we will be focusing on Christian, Sikh and Muslim words of wisdom. We will then be applying this to our own lives, thinking about our sources of guidance and wisdom. We will also have the opportunity to take reflection and meditation time.

Dear Parents/Carers,

After Christmas, our theme will be 'Star Trekking Across the Universe', linked to space. If the children would like to do any research about space in preparation that would be lovely.

In English, we will be looking at the narrative poem, 'The Highwayman'. We will look at the different features and techniques used and then we will be writing our own narrative poems, linking to space exploration. After this, we will write narrative prequels to the Highwayman, following on from what we have learnt. Finally, we are hoping to do some persuasive speech writing and performing, linked to the moon landing.

In maths, we will be continuing to build on our place value skills and develop our understanding of multiplication and division. We will then look at fractions, including decimals and percentages.

Library sessions will continue to be on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure that children remember to bring their library books for this time. Indoor PE will still be on a Wednesday and outdoor PE on a Thursday. Please take some time over the Christmas holidays to check your child's PE kits, ensuring that everything is still clearly labelled and fits them. They will need to have full indoor and outdoor PE kits in school at all times in case lessons have to change for any reason (i.e. due to the weather).

Just a reminder that we are continuing our Reading Race so the children should be reading a variety of genres regularly and getting their Reading Records signed by an adult when they are heard read. This should be at least twice a week to an adult. They should also continue to practise their multiplication and division facts, as well as their spellings. Homework will now go back to being set on a Thursday and due in on a Tuesday. Spellings' homework is set on a Monday and due in on a Friday.

Finally, we are hoping to organise a trip to the Space Centre in Leicester for the Spring term. More details will follow.

We are looking forward to a lovely term.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 5 Team.