



# We are Astronomers

## KS2 Autumn Term 2 2020



### Topic Overview

This half term we are really excited to be working in partnership with the Open University outreach team.

We have already begun to read *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce (Carnegie Medal Winner) This is a roller coaster adventure that takes Liam Digby up into space with a handful of other children and their parents. It's an hilarious journey of discovery as Liam hurtles around the world finding out exactly what makes children and adults different. We are going to have great fun imagining what it might be like to be Liam and with the help of the Open University scientist find out what space is really like!

We will of course be going over concepts missed during the Lockdown and working to secure the children's knowledge and understanding.

### Subject Focus

Science - Earth and Space  
Geography - What if the Earth started to move?

### Programmes of Study

#### English

We will cover the following genres of writing within our learning experiences this half-term:

- A non-chronological report about a planet
- A diary entry in role as Liam
- A formal letter in role as Mrs Sass (Headteacher) to Liam's parents about the incident in the assembly & complaining about Liam's behaviour
- An informal letter to a penfriend about adventures in space
- A persuasive letter to our parents about going to space

We will develop carefully structured sentences considering our use of grammar and developing our knowledge of:

- Apostrophes for omission and possession
- Commas for clauses
- Different sentence openers
- Use of dashes to add additional ideas

#### Maths

We will be continuing to secure our knowledge of number facts like square and cubed numbers and methods for the four operations.

We will move on to think about:

Y6

- Fractions - including simplifying and calculating with improper fractions and mixed numbers
- Position and Direction

Y5

- Multiplication and Division - formal written methods
- Statistics including how we read line graphs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area and Perimeter</li> </ul> <p>Following our baseline assessments with the children last half term, we now have a really good understanding of our children's knowledge and understanding and when they are 'ready to progress' further.</p>
<b>Geography</b>	<p>'What if the Earth started to move?'</p> <p>We will be learning what an earthquake is and why / where they happen. We will consider the effects of earthquakes in different areas of the world and how people cope with living in an earthquake zone.</p>
<b>DT</b>	<p>We will be designing moon buggies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designing a buggy based on some design criteria.</li> <li>• Selecting appropriate tools, materials, components and techniques to construct a moon buggy.</li> <li>• Evaluate our products against the initial design criteria.</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	<p>Working with the Open University outreach team, we will be looking at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Geology of the Moon</li> <li>• Moon Exploration</li> <li>• Living on the Moon</li> </ul> <p>We will be watching video demonstrations from the scientists and asking them questions about their work via zoom.</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p>In Games, the children will be considering strategies for attacking and defending, and choosing the right formations for their teams.</p> <p>They will be considering how effective their moves are and evaluating their performance in games.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p>We will be learning how to use new resources on Purple Mash, which we can then develop further at home. This will include media drawing. We will also look at satellite photographs to consider what our planet looks like from space.</p>
<b>PSHE</b>	<p>Our focus this term is '<i>Economic wellbeing.</i>'</p> <p>We will be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider different ways to keep track of money</li> <li>2. Learning about risks associated with money (e.g. money can be won, lost or stolen) and ways of keeping money</li> <li>3. Considering the risks involved in gambling; different ways money can be won or lost through gambling-related activities and their impact on health, wellbeing and future aspirations.</li> </ol> <p>Classes will also have an opportunity to take part in an online workshop with the UK Parliament Education service.</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>This half term we will be focusing on the message of <i>incarnation</i> and how this links with the <i>Nativity</i>.</p> <p>The children will be looking at how Christmas is celebrated by Christians and non-Christians. We will investigate the symbolic relevance of Christmas, the Nativity and other passages in the Bible that document Jesus' Birth. We will be thinking about reasons why Jesus is important to Christians and how Jesus supports the Christian faith through the lessons the Bible teaches.</p> <p>We will also be comparing the importance of Jesus Incarnate with the avatars of Hinduism and considering why these are an important part of the Hindu faith.</p>

## Curriculum Enrichment



Following our 'Covid' approach, this term is Year 6's turn to take part in an extracurricular club on a Thursday after school. If you would like your child to take part please contact the school office.

## Home Learning



In addition to daily reading, TTSRock Stars and weekly spellings to learn at home, all children in Y 5 / 6 will now receive a weekly My Maths exercise to complete at home.

Further details about home learning will be sent out in coming weeks.

## Reminders



As we continue to ventilate the classroom, we would recommend that children come to school with extra layers under their school jumpers. Children need to come into school dressed for PE on the days where they have PE. Please make sure they are wearing appropriate footwear and have a coat as it is likely to be outside.

Puffin- Monday and Friday  
Kingfisher- Monday and Tuesday  
Penguin- Thursday and Friday

Water bottles are welcomed in the classroom. **These should only contain water and must be labelled.** Children will bring these home daily.

## What you can do at home?

Please encourage your child to read daily and practise their number facts using the Time Tables Rock Star programme.

## Diary Dates



Moon Project  
12/11/2020 - Geology of the Moon

Week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> November is Anti-Bullying week, which fits in perfectly with our value of the month - Respect. We will be starting the week with an ODD SOCK DAY on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November to celebrate how wonderful it is to be unique.

19/11/2020 - Moon Exploration

24/11/2020 - Living on the Moon

### Moon Night

As we mentioned on Monday, we will also be hosting an online version of our annual Moon Night event on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 4:30-6:30pm.