



Hello there!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday and enjoyed spending time with your families.

This half-term, we have another busy and fun filled curriculum in Year 5, full of exciting learning opportunities for your children. We will be exploring the topic of 'Space'.

English

This half term, our class novel is 'The Jamie Drake Equation' by Christopher Edge. The children are thrilled to embark on a new novel and delve into its captivating story. They will have numerous opportunities to read passages aloud, which will help enhance their fluency and expression. Additionally, the children will engage with a variety of comprehension questions to demonstrate their understanding of the text. As well as this, we will be analysing non-fiction texts about Space. We will continue to hold weekly robust reading sessions where pupils are encouraged to read the text independently and respond to questions. This challenging material not only aids in developing their reading skills but also prepares them for the independent reading they will encounter in their future education.

In our writing lessons this half term, we will begin by writing our own poetry which focuses on rhythm and rhyme. After, we will begin non-chronological reports about planets, which will be full of informative language. Following on from this, we will be writing character descriptions based around the video clip 'One Small Step'. The grammar features we will continue to incorporate in our writing will be semicolons, relative clauses, cohesion between paragraphs and parenthesis.

Maths

This half-term, we will continue to use the White Rose Maths scheme to support the delivery of our maths lessons. We will be exploring the topics of multiplication, division and fractions in further detail and also beginning our learning about percentages. Each week, the children will also have opportunities to develop their reasoning skills in weekly whole class reasoning sessions.

Reading

All children will have their own reading book chosen at their reading level. It has been fantastic to see some children already move up on to the next reading colour band! We would like you to continue to send your child to school each day with it, along with their reading record. The children will also get to choose a different book from our library to read for pleasure. Please take good care of all books sent home.

Please can you make sure that you sign your child's reading record at least 3 times a week in order to have their book changed.

PE

Jonny Wilkinson: Indoor PE is on Monday and Outdoor PE sessions will be on Wednesday.

Lucy Bronze Class: Outdoor PE is on Wednesday and indoor PE sessions will be on Friday.

Please continue to send your children to school in their PE kits on their PE days. Please ensure that this is a plain black shirt and black shorts or joggers/leggings. As we are still in the colder months, we would also recommend a plain black hoodie/sweatshirt.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to speak to us on the door any evening or message us on Class Dojo.

Important Dates:

- Monday 6th January – School reopens for the Spring term.
- Wednesday 15th January – Visit the Planetarium in school.
- Friday 14th February – School closes for the half- term break.

**You can help by:**

Encouraging your child to engage in regular practice at home is vital for reinforcing their learning. We highly recommend that they spend time exploring their times tables on TT Rockstars, along with revisiting and challenging themselves on subjects we have been covering in class using resources like My Maths and Top Marks.

Reading together can significantly enhance your child's literacy skills. Encourage them to read aloud and share stories, while also asking thought-provoking questions about the text. Prompt your child to make predictions about the storyline, urging them to use evidence from the book to support their ideas. It would be beneficial to focus on the six main reading skills: monitoring, inferring, wondering, visualising, summarising, and connecting. You can practise these skills together during your reading sessions.

Please also ensure that your child completes their weekly homework assignments. These tasks are always aligned with their current or forthcoming topics of study and are designed to strengthen their understanding of the material.

Finally, support your child in practising their personalised spellings each week. There are many interactive and enjoyable games available on this platform to assist them in mastering their spellings.

Many thanks,

Miss Williams, Mr Gibbons and Mr Kerrigan
The Year 5 Team