



Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 1

Welcome to Year 5 and the Autumn Term!

We are all really excited for the year ahead and for all the wonderful learning experiences the children will have. We are looking forward to working together with you to ensure that your children have the best experience in Year 5. We hope that this newsletter helps you to understand and discuss with your child about the learning they will be doing this half term.

General Class Information

- We celebrate 'Reading for Pleasure' in Year 5. Children are exposed to a diverse range of high – interest books to develop a culture that will enable them to become avid and independent readers. In addition to texts covered in the curriculum, every child chooses a book (or two) to read at home and we encourage our children to share their experiences with one another.
- The children have two P.E. lessons a week; ours are on **Tuesdays and Fridays**. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct PE uniform (school jumper, white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and trainers or pumps). We would like our children to look smart at all times.
- In Year 5 we take part in the Daily Mile. Our children are extremely enthusiastic and continuously strive to beat their personal best.



LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD – MISSION CONTROL

'Mission Control' is a thematic unit based on the subject of Earth and beyond, with a key focus on science and history. The children will learn about the Earth, Sun and Moon and their relationship to each other, before finding out more about space exploration and communication.

Science

- A. To know that the Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies.
- B. To know about and explain the movement of the Earth relative to the Sun in the solar system.
- C. To use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky.
- D. To know about, and explain, the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth.

History

- A. To learn about space exploration and discovery.
- B. To develop knowledge and understanding of famous astronomers, as well as significant worldwide astronauts.
- C. To learn about the development and role of satellite communication.

Art

Pupils will demonstrate their knowledge of the Sun, the surface of the Moon and other planets through the use of painting techniques.

Dance

Pupils will investigate a diagram of the solar system and discuss circles, relations, orbits and pathways. The pupils will then use circles as a stimulus for creative solo work. This will be developed into a trio composition including Orbits. Phase 2 involves responding to some pieces from Holst's Planet Suite and leads to small group compositions exploring circular pathways in dance. Finally, the group will recreate a version of the Planetary Dance, a dance structure created by post-modern choreographer Anna Halprin.

Design Technology

Pupils will be provided with opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of designing and making functional products for particular purposes and uses. They will have the opportunity to stretch their imaginations, to design and problem solve, and to understand the needs of other people.

Drama

Starting with the first moon landing, pupils will find out about the concept of 'orbits' and the effect of gravity, time, seasons and tides. They will explore the legacy of space flight and scientific inventions and become an astronaut, offering expert advice and information about the universe.

Pupils will explore the genre of musicals, leading to the composition of a mini musical based on the first moon landing.

Music

Pupils will find out about the concept of 'orbits' and relate it to cyclic patterns. Pupils will experiment with cyclic patterns with a focus on strong beats. They will improvise melodic cyclic patterns and then try combining them with rhythmic cycles.

Computing

Pupils will learn about vector drawings and how they are created. They will understand the difference between traditional drawing, digital raster graphics and vector graphics. Finally, they will develop the skills needed to be able to create their own vector artwork based on the theme of space exploration, using vector artwork software such as Vectr (<https://vectr.com>).

Maths

We use White Rose Maths to plan and deliver the teaching of Maths. For each topic, we work through the following sequence:

- Concrete – using concrete materials, e.g using 'Base 10' equipment to understand place value
- Pictorial – using place value charts and bar models to support our understanding and solve problems
- Abstract – using numbers to represent 'Powers of Ten'

This half term, the children will be learning about Place Value and Addition and Subtraction. Here are the small steps of learning:

Year 5 Autumn term Block 1 – Place value	
Small steps	
Step 1	Roman numerals to 1,000
Step 2	Numbers to 10,000
Step 3	Numbers to 100,000
Step 4	Numbers to 1,000,000
Step 5	Read and write numbers to 1,000,000
Step 6	Powers of 10
Step 7	10/100/1,000/10,000/100,000 more or less
Step 8	Partition numbers to 1,000,000

Year 5 Autumn term Block 1 – Place value	
Small steps	
Step 9	Number line to 1,000,000
Step 10	Compare and order numbers to 100,000
Step 11	Compare and order numbers to 1,000,000
Step 12	Round to the nearest 10, 100 or 1,000
Step 13	Round within 100,000
Step 14	Round within 1,000,000

Year 5 Autumn term Block 2 – Addition and subtraction	
Small steps	
Step 1	Mental strategies
Step 2	Add whole numbers with more than four digits
Step 3	Subtract whole numbers with more than four digits
Step 4	Round to check answers
Step 5	Inverse operations (addition and subtraction)
Step 6	Multi-step addition and subtraction problems
Step 7	Compare calculations
Step 8	Find missing numbers

English – Writing

We use the 'Write Stuff' approach to teach writing at St George's. Writing is taught in a sequence so that the children have a clear understanding and model of how to compose a piece of writing; the punctuation they should be using and a broad range of vocabulary to enrich and enhance their writing.

This half term, our focus texts and films are:

One Small Step; Moon Landing; The Malfeasance; Star Beast;

The children will be using these texts to create:

- Narrative (science-fiction, adventure)
- Diary extract (writing 'in role')
- Letter writing (applying for Space School)
- Non-chronological report (Solar System)
- News report (Moon Landing)
- Poetry (aliens)

RE

Our investigation for this half term is: *Why do some people believe God exists?*

This investigation will enable the children to learn in depth from different religious and non-religious groups about the nature of belief in God. The children will consider why people do or don't believe in God and the impact that might have on the way they live their everyday life.

Our whole school Christian Value this half term is THANKFULNESS.

'Always be thankful.' 1 Thessalonians 5. 16

During our Collective Worship assemblies, the children will be reflecting on the themes of thanking God for people who help us, praising God in creation, remembering to say thank you, giving thanks even when times are difficult, counting our blessings and living fruitful lives.