



Year 5 Spring 1 Newsletter



Coming up in Spring 1

Out of this World

We will be continuing our Solar System learning journey at the beginning of this term before moving onto our next theme. The children will be using non-fiction sources to help write non-chronological reports about a planet they have designed, using the solar system as our context. We will be investigating the universe in Science which began with our trip to South Downs Planetarium (last year).



We will answer the question: **Are our resources being wasted on 'visits' to space?**

Shipwrecked!



We will answer the question: **What lengths would you go to, to survive?**

Calling all wannabe polar explorers! During this theme, the children will be learning all about famous polar explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton and his perilous journey to the Antarctic. The children will be enthused with 'Ice Trap' written by Meredith Hooper and will create a detailed survival guide on how to survive in the extreme cold. There will be a dress up day during this unit where children are invited to dress as a polar explorer enrolling in Shackleton's team.

Thank you for your continued support, Year 5 Team

Our English learning will continue with the writing of non-chronological reports to include relative clauses about a planet they have designed. The children will then be moving onto instructional writing in the style of a survival guide, using Ernest Shackleton's story of polar exploration as inspiration.

Our Mathematics learning will include more multiplication and division objectives and later in the half term, we will be moving onto geometry. The children will be learning about the structure of long multiplication and division and giving them more tools and methods to help support them within this tricky learning.

Our Personal and Development Learning (SCARF) unit is:



Being my best and Rights and Responsibilities

The Key learning points are:

- What positively and negatively affects their physical, mental and emotional health.
- How to make informed choices and begin to understand the concept of a balanced lifestyle.
- About people who are responsible for helping them stay safe and healthy and how they can help.
- To recognise how images in the media (and online) do not always reflect reality
- What constitutes a healthy diet/lifestyle and the risks associated with an inactive one
- To recognise the role of voluntary, community and pressure groups, especially related to health and wellbeing.
- About the role money plays in their own and other's lives.

How you can **support your child's learning at home**



Supporting your child to complete their Home Learning each week is one of the best ways that you can help from home. As in the previous term, our Home Learning books will be coming home, and each week's Home Learning (whether it is Maths or Spelling-based) will help them to remember key number facts and spelling rules. We also can't stress the importance of daily reading; this could be with an adult or simply reading by themselves for pleasure! Please do remember to complete the reading diary in the Home Learning books.

Other ways that you can support your child are by encouraging them to read a range of instructions or survival guides. These could include Bear Grylls, Sir Edmund Hillary and Kellie Nightlinger as some ideas.

Dates for your Year 5 diary

Tuesday 24th January - Shackleton Dress-up Day



The children are invited to wear costumes (and bring objects) suitable for polar exploration.

Year 5 Messages

Please ensure children have warm PE kit for outdoor PE on Mondays. Thank you ☺

Find out about the wonderful learning we did in Autumn 2 on the next page...

Our Learning in Autumn 2

A Beacon of Light

We started the second half term by travelling back in time to the Middle East and learning all about the Golden Islamic civilisation. The children were very surprised and interested to know that most modern day inventions were initially created back in the 12th century by the Islamic Empire, including coffee, universities and algebra!



Our key text for Beacon of Light was an incredible picture book by the author and artist Shaun Tan. The story focuses on immigration, emigration and what it may be like to be a refugee or an asylum seeker. The children all provided emotional and insightful play scripts based on the characters in this book.



In R.E, we welcomed an Islamic visitor and it was lovely to see Hamza back at QI to speak about the Islamic religion and the beliefs that Muslims follow. The children asked some fantastic, thought-provoking questions and this really helped with increasing their knowledge of Islam and their empathy and understanding towards others who may have different beliefs to them.



In November, the children visited the South Downs Planetarium and blasted off into space to discover more about our planets, stars, galaxy and the future of space exploration. The children touched and investigated meteorites, pieces of the Moon and even a piece of Mars! The volunteers at the Planetarium complimented the children on how polite and well behaved they were and are looking forward to welcoming us back next time.

