

“To Infinity and Beyond”

Y5 (Norwich) - Curriculum Newsletter - Spring Term

English

To begin with, we will be using the book ‘Gorilla’ by Anthony Browne to write our own narrative. Before half term, we will be writing our own non-chronological report on polar bears. After half term, linked to our space topic, we will be writing a diary as if we were in Space, linked to our class novel ‘Cosmic’ by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. We will continue to read a range of texts to support both our fluency as well as our comprehension.



Maths

Fractions - In this strand of Mathematics we will develop our ability to handle more diverse problems involving fractions, including dividing and multiplying fractions by whole numbers.



Decimals - In this strand we will explore decimals. To begin, we learn to read and write decimal numbers, followed by comparing decimal numbers to find out which is greater, and which is smaller. Adding, subtracting and rounding decimals to the nearest whole number will follow.

Percentage- Comparing quantities and exposing percentage as an amount out of 100 is how this unit will begin. We finish by converting fractions to hundredths, both by expanding fractions and by simplifying them.

Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) - This aspect of Mathematics will play a crucial part of our learning this term. Continuing to recap our multiplication facts from last term, we will also be learning to quickly recognise and recall decimal number bonds from 1-100 ($5.43+4.57$ or $0.43+0.57$) and recognise equivalent fractions and decimals.

Science

In the first half of the term, our main topic this term is “*To Infinity and Beyond*” where we will be studying the Earth, Sun and Moon. We will be learning about the size and names of the planets in our solar system and the children will be inventing their own mnemonics to remember the names! We will then go on to learn about the phases of the Moon and night and day. Following this, we will be learning about orbits and seasons, while learning about forces and gravity. Within this unit, we will also be investigating forces including gravity, and water and air resistance.



History

In the second half of this term, we will have a focus on history with Vikings and Anglo-Saxons as a focus. This will include researching who they were and why they invaded. Additionally, we will be looking in detail at the similarities and differences between the two invaders, while focusing in on beliefs, cultures, settlements and using surviving artefacts and evidence to learn more about the significant period in history.



French

During the first half of this term, we will be learning at ‘salon du the’ and how to order a breakfast. After half term, we will learn the weather culminating in creating our own French weather forecast.



Computing

This term, we will be using internet search engines to carry out research linked to our topic and for the first half term we will be learning how to create and use databases and we will be creating our own database in the form of the popular “Top Trumps” game. In the second half of the term, we will be developing our skills in Coding. We will learn how to: use variables and formulae in code to create an area calculator and convert one measurement into another; learn how to use variables and loops to solve maths challenges and finally we will develop our own app.



Religious Education (RE)

In the first half term our first enquiry will explore the question, “**Is anything ever eternal?**” We will learn how Christians believe that God’s love for humankind is eternal in that God will never stop loving humanity. We will also investigate the concept of salvation and what this means to Christians. In the second half of the term, we will explore the question, “**Is Christianity still a strong religion over 2000 years after Jesus was on Earth.**” In this unit of learning we will be looking at how a person, or a faith (or worldview) may influence or inspire actions today. We will begin to explain how the influence people have had on us has affected our views, considering what influence means in our own lives. We will then look into the History of Christianity and visit key terms and concepts such as Agape, Harvest and how the fish symbol and its origins are connected to Christianity.



Personal Social Health Education (PSHE)

Our theme for the first half will be ‘**Dreams and Goals**’. This topic will allow us to consider what we would like as a career when we are an adult and how we can achieve this. We will also be investigating different career choices linked to different cultures. In the second half of the term, the theme will be about ‘**Healthy Me**’. It is here where we investigate subjects such as alcohol, smoking, emergency first aid, body image and our relationship with food. This will allow us to be informed to make healthy decisions as we develop and grow.



Art /Design and Technology

We are going to be very creative this term and again, this will all be linked to our space topic. In the first half of the term, in design and technology, the children will be designing and making a space buggy thinking carefully about a specific set of criteria. Linked to our second half term focus on Vikings and Anglo Saxons, we will be further developing our sketching skills looking in detail at specific techniques to depict movement, perspective, shadows and reflection.

Music

As a school, we will be following the scheme ‘Sing Up in Music’. In Music, we will be using the piece *Rosewood Gratitude* by Lily May as the basis of the unit. The piece and the unit is inspired by the balafon music of West Africa. The objective of the unit is to be immersed ourselves in the rhythm and harmony sound world of *Rosewood Gratitude*, whilst exploring a range of percussive techniques on xylophones



Physical Education (P.E)

The PE focus for this term is net and wall games, where we will be playing netball and tennis. We will therefore be outside as often as possible, and so it is crucial the children come prepared **wearing warm clothing for outside**. We will also be pushing our own fitness levels considering how physically fit astronauts would have to be to journey into space. In addition to this, children will be composing dances linked to our space topic.. **The children need to ensure that they wear the appropriate P.E. kit on these specific days (see school updated policy for expected kit)**. Our PE days in the first half term is **Monday** and **Friday**.



Homework

Homework this term will be recorded in homework diaries and available on TEAMS. It will be set a **Thursday** to be handed in on the following **Tuesday**. Each week the children will have an **English** and **Maths** task that **MUST** be complete with potentially another area linked to our topic which could be completed. **Reading MUST** be continued as part of our weekly homework routine. Please ensure homework and reading diaries are signed on a weekly basis.

Mrs Coote

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