

During this term, we will be reading Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce which is an adventure story that heads into space. Although brilliantly funny, it is also a serious story about self-belief, friendship and appreciating what you have. Literary activities to include:

- Character analysis
- Setting descriptions
- Persuasive writing
- Diary writing
- Newspaper reports

Science - we will be exploring how to develop scientific enquiry with regard to the Solar System as well as describing the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun, describing the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth and using Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

Geography - Time zones and winter and summer sun. Using the geographical content of Cosmic, we will also explore map locations, latitude, longitude, the climate of the different settings in the book, explore human and physical geography, e.g. Liam's home town of Waterloo, Liverpool with the Gobi desert.

History – Discover how the Ancient Sumerians, who were among the first astronomers, studied the night sky and explored star constellations. Explore technological advances including the charting of the space race and subsequent space missions, including British astronomers.

Music - Investigate the moods and characters in Gustav Holst's The Planets.

Art – Focus on abstract space artist Peter Thorpe.

DT – Rocket design

Activities to support our studies:

Visit to Greenwich Observatory

Dark Skies Workshop

Oxney Years 4/5 Term 1 Earth and Space

Spelling, punctuation and grammar

Extending sentences, subordinate clauses, word classes, determiners and expanded noun phrases.

Strategies for learning words, words ending in 'sure', possessive apostrophe with singular proper nouns, homophones, words from statutory lists, letter string ough, words ending in -able and -ible.

Maths

Properties of shape including identifying and comparing angles, measuring angles, regular and irregular polygons and lines of symmetry.

Place value

Regular practice of multiplication facts with a weekly tables check up. Regular use of TT Rockstars is encouraged.

Mathletics tasks will be set every week to support class based learning.

Computing – online safety, typing, speed test and data

PE – handball and football. PE is on Wednesdays and Fridays each week. A complete kit should be in school at all times

RE Exploration of 'The Big Frieze' art work and the controversy around the relationship between accounts of Creation in Genesis and contemporary scientific accounts

PSHE - Personal, Interpersonal and Communication Skills and making life choices and decisions

Dates for your diary

24th September – Jazz Music Day
26th September – Harvest Festival
8th October - Greenwich Observatory
9th/10th - Parent consultations
16th October – Dark Skies workshop

Home Learning

The home learning grid offers a variety of tasks to be completed in relation to the class theme of Earth and Space. One of these should be completed each week and the relevant work placed in the book provided. Mathletics and Spellodrome tasks should also be completed as these link to our learning in class.

Reading is a huge part of the curriculum so regular reading for enjoyment is encouraged at home. This does not have to be a class reading book but can be any suitable reading material.