



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'.

We are looking forward to an exciting and busy half term in Year 5 and would like to share an overview of what the children will be learning.

In **English**, our class novel will be *The Jamie Drake Equation* by Christopher Edge. Children will explore the text in depth and answer a range of question types, focusing on retrieval, inference and vocabulary. During Robust Reading sessions, they will also read non-fiction texts linked to space.

In **Mathematics**, pupils will develop their understanding of multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages. They will build fluency using written methods and apply their learning through reasoning and problem-solving activities.

Our **Science** topic this half term is *Space*. Children will learn about the planets in our solar system, the Sun, Moon and stars, and explore why we have day and night, months and years. This learning will be enriched by an exciting visit to a planetarium.

In **Computing**, pupils will use Purple Mash to develop 3D modelling skills. They will design and create 3D objects, with a final outcome of designing their own spacecraft.

In **Art**, children will explore space as a theme, developing their drawing skills through sketching planets, stars and spacecraft, focusing on line, shape, shading and detail.

In **PE**, pupils will take part in gymnastics and fitness lessons, developing balance, strength, flexibility and stamina.

In **RE**, children will explore the question '*What values are shown in codes for living?*'. They will learn about different religions and reflect on shared values and their own beliefs.

French and Mandarin will continue to be taught by specialist teachers, following the planned curriculum.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fantastic half term ahead.

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

TuYouYOu: PE days are Monday and Tuesday .
Alex Holland Class: PE days are Thursday and 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,
Mr Kerrigan and Mr Cliff
The Year 5 Team