

# Class 5 Curriculum Update

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Monthly values – 'Gratitude' and 'Commitment'



This is our first 'Curriculum Update' of the year so may I begin by saying I hope you have all had a good start to 2022! Since we have returned, we have continued our learning about the 'Solar System' and 'Space'. The children have had lots of opportunities to make use of practical representations and acting out, in order to gain an understanding of how the Sun, Moon and Earth all move and interact. In addition, we have conducted some investigations into how gravity works on objects falling and how day and night works. Everyone was surprised to find out, that heavy and light objects both fall at the same speed, with only air resistance affecting which objects hit the ground first. We will be finishing off this theme over the next week, although will continue to investigate different aspects in future science lessons.

In our English work, the class have consolidated their knowledge and understanding of grammatical features expanded noun phrases, direct speech, fronted adverbials and relative clauses. Ask your child if they can explain what these are to you! Over the last week, we have started to practise the art of debating and listening to alternative points of view. The class have really enjoyed the opportunities to debate various topics, often coming up with some very creative arguments! This has been taken into their writing and this week they will be writing their own balanced argument, considering whether the Moon landings were real or fake.

We have had lots of excellent art opportunities in this theme. The class have looked at the works of Peter Thorpe and his representations of space and rockets. As well as having a go at making their own versions, they have used colour wheels to explore mixing paints and using 'hot' and 'cold' colours to create atmosphere on planets. This week, we will be exploring various ways to create artwork about the 'Moon'.



### Wider curriculum

To keep you informed of the other opportunities currently in Year 5:

- Mr Hutton is due to start teaching some gymnastic skills in our P.E. lessons on Tuesdays.
- Mrs West (from 'Encore Music') continues to teach us the flute on Thursday mornings, alongside other musical skills, such as singing, listening and other musical games.
- Mrs Blaker continues to teach French to the class on Friday afternoons. They learn basic conversation skills and different themes of vocabulary, as well as gaining an understanding of French life and culture.
- Mrs Corrick now teaches 'Construction' with small groups on a Friday, using various equipment and tools to fix, mend and create around school.
- Forest school activities continue on a Wednesday morning.

### Maths

This term we have been focusing on multiplication, moving onto using these in practical ways with some large numbers, for instance 2 digits x 2 digits and beyond.

In order to do these, it is really important to have a secure understanding and recall of all times tables. If your child is not at this point yet then I recommend 5 minutes practise a day to build repetition for ones they are not confident with. Make it a competition, play a game, sing a song or use TTRockstars. If you would like any further assistance then please just ask or email me.

We are now practising divisions and again the knowledge of times tables is vital to being able to do this successfully.

Thank you for your support with this.



*Please feel free to speak to me (via phone or email) if you have any worries or concerns regarding your child, whether it is to do with at school or at home.*

*From Mr Ford, Mr Batstone and the Year 5 Team.*