



Michael Drayton Junior School

Year 5 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year. The children have returned to school refreshed and eager to face the challenges this New Year will bring. A big thank you to all those who created recycled items from Christmas packaging. There were some excellent and innovative creations.



Our main topic this half term is Science based, "Earth and Beyond." The children will be researching and learning facts about the Sun, Earth, Moon and the planets. They will also be researching and presenting a topic of their own choice, linked to this for their homework project.

There is a visit to the Space Centre planned this half term. More details of this will be sent out in a separate letter.

PARENTS' EVENING

Tuesday 7th February
3.30 – 5.00 pm

Wednesday 8th February
6pm – 8pm

Year 5 Teachers

Mrs Butterick
Miss Mayne
Mrs Wilson
Mr Sutcliffe

Support Staff

Mrs Chetwynd
Mrs Charnell
Mrs Pitts
Mrs Allan
Mr Eardley

School Uniform

A significant number of children are still bringing unnamed PE kit and uniform into school, which has resulted in a large amount of lost property being accrued. In order to ensure children's belongings are kept safe, it would be very helpful if you would name all belongings, including uniform, P.E kit, coats and lunchboxes.



P.E. and Games

P.E takes place on:

Tuesdays for 5BU and 5SU
and
Friday for 5MA and 5Wi.



Games lesson are on Thursdays for all classes.

Indoor P.E kit: white t-shirt, black shorts and pumps or bare feet.

Outdoor kit: trainers and tracksuit tops and bottoms for colder weather.

Swimming: This term 5Bu and 10 children from 5MA are swimming. Details for this have already been sent out in a separate letter.

ALL CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THESE LESSONS, UNLESS A MEDICAL NOTE IS PROVIDED FROM HOME

Homework

Homework will continue to be given on a Friday and is due in on the following Wednesday. Will you please sign your child's diary each week as a way of maintaining close contact with your child's class teacher, who will also check the diaries weekly and sign them.

It would be most helpful if you would spend a few minutes each day with your child, helping them to learn and practise their tables, in order to sharpen and improve their recall and knowledge of tables facts, to help them in other areas of Numeracy.

Reading

All children have received a reading record booklet in order to record all books that they have read, at both home and in school. It is important that these reading records are kept up to date. Part of the children's homework is to read for twenty minutes every evening, as this will help them greatly to become more fluent readers.

Literacy

This will all be based on our science topic.

- Creating and performing poems
- Writing and performing radio reports
- Play scripts
- Narrative accounts about life on other planets

Numeracy

- Mental strategies for calculations
- Constant practice and recall of multiplication tables up to 10x10
- Counting, partitioning, calculating, securing number facts
- Written methods for \times and \div
- Area and perimeter
- Symmetry, reflection, rotation and translation of shapes
- Ratio, proportion and probability



Earth and Beyond

ICT

The children will be creating Power Point presentations with animation and transitions.

The children will be using sound recording software to create a radio news report based on an alien sighting, which they will



Earth and Beyond - Science

- Relationship of Earth, Sun and Moon
- Day, night and shadows
- Seasons
- Phases of the moon
- Earthquakes and volcanoes
- How was Planet Earth formed?
- Formation of mountains



Much of this work will involve the children following independent lines of enquiry, which will be help to

Art

Art this term will involve designing and creating Alien landscapes.

PSHE/R.E

The R.E. focus is Buddhist beliefs, traditions and the life of Buddha.

PSHE – This term we will cover Embracing differences, where the children will be considering their own strengths and how it is important to accept similarities and differences of different cultures.

WHAT NEXT?

After half term the main focus of study will be a geography based topic, "Way of Life, " where new links have been created with another school in Mumbai. This is a great opportunity for the children to have a first-hand experience of different cultures and to forge new friendships.

They will learn about different cultures and way of life, including exploring and performing Indian dance.

To support this topic, the children will have the opportunity in D.T to create and sample different foods from India.

In Literacy, the children will be studying literature from different cultures.

In addition to this, the children will be learning about different styles of music from different cultures, creating their own compositions.