

Curriculum subjects

Over the next half term your children will continue to work towards achieving their learning targets. I have high expectations for each child and would like to work in partnership with parents. So, if you have any comments about your child's learning, please get in touch.

Topic: Mission to Mars

English

This term our learning will be based around a book entitled "Mars needs Moms". The children will focus on recount texts including newspaper reports and letter writing. They will extend their skills in writing a narrative.

Their grammar and punctuation focus will cover the following areas:

- *Using the passive form of the verb.*
- *Using colons and semi-colons to separate causes.*
- *Using semi-colons to separate items in a list.*
- *In spelling we will look at the -ough letter string, ei and ie spellings and revise all spelling rules covered so far.*

Mathematics

The children will continue to develop their skills in:

- *Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (formal written methods)*
- *Applying these skills in a variety of everyday contexts*
- *Explaining and justifying strategies used.*
- *Look at the properties of triangles and use our understanding of measuring turn in angles.*
- *Solving problems which involve ratio and proportion.*

Science

Science forms the main part of our topic. We will be looking at our place in the universe with a topic entitled "Mission to Mars". By the end of the topic it is hoped that your child will be able to achieve the following:

- *describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system*
- *describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth*
- *describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies*
- *use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.*
- *explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.*

The children will continue to develop their investigational skills with a focus on

- *Devising questions which can be tested.*

- *Making predictions based on their own knowledge and understanding of the world.*
- *Drawing results tables.*

Computing

Using our Crumble software, we will be learning to design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems. We will apply this knowledge into our "moon buggies".

DT

Towards the end of this term, we will be designing and making solar powered cars or 'moon buggies'. Within our design work we will be:

- *Planning in detail against a set of design criteria*
- *Selecting from a range of tools*
- *Practising practical skills such as measuring, cutting, shaping and joining*
- *Exploring mechanisms such as axels, wheels and gears*
- *Learning how solar energy can be converted to electricity.*
- *Evaluating our finished buggies*

Religious education

Our RE will have a focus on Easter. We will be looking at the theme of salvation and ask the question: "What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?" We will look at accounts of the resurrection from the Bible, make connections between these and worship at Easter and explain why some people find belief in the resurrection inspires them.

Modern Foreign Languages

*This term we will continue to learn to tell the time in French and express likes and dislikes using farm animals and pets and say what we would like to have. We will continue to use the verb to have and make more complex sentences using nouns, adjectives and the conjunction **mais** (but).*

Physical Education/Games

During games sessions we will be focusing on our agility and coordination. These skills will be used in a game called Jumpball. In indoor games, we will focus on a unit of work where we will create sequences looking at synchronisation of movements.

Music

This half term the class will start with 2 lessons playing the djembe drum. They will then be linking their music to the class topic of 'Earth in Space' focusing on tempo and dynamics in music. They will be learning to identify and understand how the range of tempi and dynamics can be used and manipulated for expressive effect by studying and listening in depth to

'Mars' by G Holst, 'Also Sprach Zarathustra' - Sunrise by R Strauss and 'Star Wars: A New Hope' by J Williams.

Additionally, the class will continue to learn the songs for their participation in the Giant Sing musical performance of Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Prince" on March 14th 2017 at The Anvil, Basingstoke.

Learning Skills

As the children begin to work towards their SATs tests in May, I will be asking the children to show even greater independence. This will be in the homework that they will complete as well as in setting their own short term learning targets in the classroom.

Other Information

Homework

- 30 minutes of reading per night, to be logged in reading records at least 5 times a week.
- Tables practice for around 5 minutes, three times a week.
- Minimum 45 minutes Maths-based per week
- Minimum 45 minutes English-based per week including spellings to learn.

The children will be given SATs papers. If the children require help, please mark where help has been given.

Homework task-sheets will be put into the children's homework books when homework is set and work will be completed in their books and handed in. It is expected that homework will be completed neatly and that due care and attention will be paid to presentation.

PE kit

Your child will need a PE kit every Monday and Friday

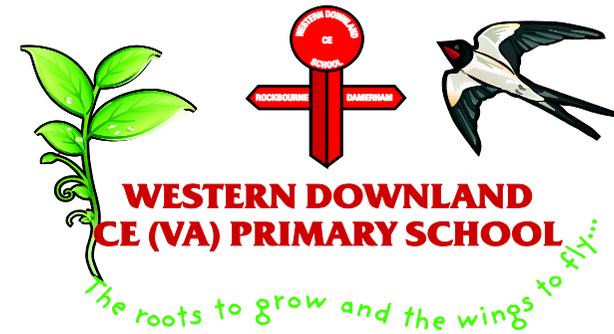
Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 14th March – trip to Big Sing

Easter Service- Thursday 6th April

Science Week- Monday 13th March

Red Nose Day- Friday 24th March.



Year 6

Curriculum Newsletter
Spring Term 2
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Mrs. Jackie Miller

