

# Is there life on Mars?

At last, welcome back to school, where we will be blasting off to discover the mysteries of space and beyond! This science based topic will see us make a link between forces and the planets, as well as phenomena such as day and night and the importance of the space race.

## English

In our English we shall be developing our writing tool kits, using a range of film, textual and visual sources to inspire our writing and creative thinking. The main focus here will be on writing effective descriptions, building atmosphere and tension and exploring a range of new sentence types to heighten our reader's excitement.

## Maths

In our Maths learning we will be focusing on place value, addition & subtraction, geometry and statistics, as well as improving our ability to explore possibilities and find patterns and rules in number.

## Art/D.T

Through the work of Vincent Van Gogh we are experimenting with ranges of tone in order to express light/shade. Our design work sees us using a selection of folds and joining methods to create an alien creature.

## PSHEE and RE:

New beginnings and starting afresh are the foci of our PSHEE lessons this term as we start a new year and adapt to new routines, surroundings and challenges. RE will focus on the Hindu religion, discussing themes such as devotion, pilgrimage and use of artefacts for prayer and reflection.

**Dates:** Year 5 Curriculum evening Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, time TBC.

FOCCS disco Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Parent/teacher consultations 8<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October.

End of term: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

**P.E. kits** - For term 1, P.E will be on a Monday and Tuesday morning. **Please remember that children should come to school wearing their P.E kits on the Tuesday morning only.**

Homework will be given out weekly on a Thursday and will be expected back in on the following Tuesday morning. If their homework is not handed in on time, then they will be expected to miss a break time or lunchtime.

Your child will be expected to practise their times tables every week, (using TT Rock stars or an agreed alternative method) as a solid understanding of their times tables can really strengthen your child's ability in Maths.

Reading at home- both aloud and to themselves- is an excellent way of increasing vocabulary and comprehension. Please encourage your child to have a book that interests/inspires them at home - if they want to bring this book to school for consistency and fluency, this is encouraged. If your child is struggling to find a book they enjoy, we are more than happy to give recommendations and advice!

Children need to remember their spelling country booklets every Tuesday to be signed off. Please ensure that you have also signed to show where they have practised that week.

At least 40 minutes should be spent on the topic/maths/English homework each week. We will have discussed the expectations and content with the children beforehand, so they should be able to carry this out independently, or with minimal help.

Healthy snack: Just a reminder that it is school policy for children to have a snack which is either a fruit, or vegetable, at break times.