Science: Space
Our science and topic work will be very closely linked this half term. We will be finding out how man-kind has proven the Earth is a sphere. We will also learn about the other planets in the solar system. We will discover why we have night and day and seasons. We'll learn about the phases of the moon and carry out an investigation about craters.

Art:
In art, we will be taking inspiration from Peter Thorpe, studying his artistic style and techniques before applying these to our own work.

RE:
We will be learning about the ways different philosophers and World religions understand and view abstract concepts such as the existence of the soul. Elements of this work will stem from Greek philosophy. We will learn about the complex nature of concepts such as truth, reality and identity found in Buddhism, Christianity and work done by Plato. We will also learn Buddhist ideas about the consequences of actions in relation to karma.

English:
This half term, we will be using the book Hidden Figures to support our learning. We will start the half term by writing biographies, then move on to writing newspaper articles based around a graphic novel of the Challenger Disaster.

Space: Exploring our Solar System

Texts:
- Hidden Figures – The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race
- The Challenger Disaster by Pranas T Naujokaitis

History:
Linked in to our Space theme, we will be learning about the Cold War between the USA and USSR, and the role of the Space Race within this. We will construct timelines, find out about the Moon Landings and decide if the Space Race had a winner.

Schools of Sanctuary:
We will be using the text 'Hidden Figures' to discover the stories of four black women involved in the Space Race.

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Maths:
This half term, we will be looking at multiplication and division in depth, to ensure a clear understanding of different calculation methods.
We will multiply 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers and divide 4-digit numbers by an integer.
With fractions, we will multiply and divide them by a single integer.

DT:
In DT, we will be starting to make moving moon buggies. We will use junk modelling equipment, together with axles and wheels, to design and make a moon buggy.
We will consider a target audience for our work and investigate different mechanisms for movement within the model.

French:
We are going to be using a new French language scheme this half term (Language Angels), where we will be learning various language structures through games, songs and fun activities.

RSHE:
We will be looking at stereotypes, gender identity, online relationships, how to ask for help and how to show respect towards others when they are in need.

Physical Education:
The cognitive skill that we will be focusing on this half term is using awareness of space and other people to make good decisions in sport as well as understanding tactics of attacking and defending. We will also zoom in on static balance skills and footwork. Finally, we will also learn swimming skills over the course of the Spring term at the UEA.

Key Vocabulary

Vocabulary	Meaning
Planet	A celestial body moving in an elliptical orbit round a star.
Celestial	Positioned in or relating to the sky, or outer space as observed in astronomy.
Satellite	An artificial body placed in orbit round the earth or moon or another planet in order to collect information or for communication.
Horizon	The line at which the earth's surface and the sky appear to meet.
Orbit	The curved path of a celestial object or spacecraft round a star, planet, or moon, especially a periodic elliptical revolution.
Axis	An imaginary line about which a body rotates (in this case, the body is Earth).
Solar system	The collection of eight planets and their moons in orbit round the sun, together with smaller bodies in the form of asteroids, meteoroids, and comets. The planets of the solar system are (in order of distance from the sun) Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.
Astronomer	An expert in or student of astronomy (the branch of science which deals with celestial objects, space, and the physical universe as a whole).

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Optional Activities (that could be completed at home):

Please try and ensure that your child spends some time at home each day reading, either to themselves, out loud or by having an older sibling or adult read to them.

- Create a mnemonic to help remember the order of the planets.
- Create a cartoon strip about an alien landing on Earth or Doctor Who discovering a new planet.
- Write a set of instructions telling an alien how to pretend to be human and not get caught during a day at school.
- Design your own alien and write words to describe them.
- Research someone who landed on the moon. Create a fact file.
- Make a 3D model of an item from space (planet, rocket, stars etc.
- Record how your shadow changes during the day – draw around it or take photos. Write a conclusion about what you find.
- Write a scene of a play set in Space and act it out (Drama).
- Create a 3D model of the solar system
- Carry out a science investigation to record the sun rise and sun set times for 2 weeks. Draw a graph to show this.
- Write a song about Space and record yourself singing it.
- Create and record a TV program, teaching people facts about the solar system.
- Write a story about living in Space or on another planet.

Class Dojo:

We love to see the work children and families have been doing at home.

Please do upload pictures via Class Dojo and we will make sure that these are celebrated in class and rewarded with team points or certificates.

Likewise if children have any notable achievements or events outside of school (swimming medals, football tournaments etc), we love to hear about these too!

<u>Volunteering in School</u>

If you still want to support and enhance the children's learning, and have some free time, we'd love to have you pop in for whatever time you can spare. This could be as a regular slot to help with spelling, reading or maths. Or it might be that you have a particular occupation/skill that you think would be interesting or relevant to our learning.

Please do get in contact with your child's teacher if you're interested in volunteering.