



# Curriculum Newsletter

Primary 4 Term 1 2024-2025



## The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

Our World Around Us theme is 'Space'. The children will learn about the eight planets and the five dwarf planets and discover lots of interesting facts about each one. The children will work in groups researching different astronauts, creating a profile for each. They will learn about what life is like for astronauts, research the Apollo Space programme and follow the Artemis and Space X programmes. Experiments will be carried out to investigate how craters are made and what affects the size of a crater. Research will be carried out into the law of gravity and we will even be making rocket balloons and see how far they fly. The children will be encouraged to look at the stars and learn about constellations.

## Music and Art

The children will be enjoying our Friday 'singsong'. They will also develop their musical skills through playing percussion instruments and the xylophone. In art, the children will make information posters to invite visitors to their planet, as well as seasonal Halloween art.

## PDMU

We are still focussing on our Take 5 steps to Wellbeing, looking at being positive, what to do when we are worried, anti-bullying, road safety and as well as self-awareness.

### **This term in:**

**Maths:** We will continue to follow our new scheme in Numeracy, Maths Mastery. At the start of this term, we will spend some time revising mental maths strategies from Primary 3 e.g., number pairs to 10/20, counting in 2s/5s/10s, doubles and near doubles, odd and even numbers. This term we will be focussing on Number sense and calculation strategies, place value, addition and subtraction and graphs. Length and perimeter will be taught after Halloween. The children will have the opportunity to consolidate previous learning each day and continue to develop their mental maths strategies in their weekly learning.

**Literacy:** As with maths, some time will be spent revising, and basic punctuation and handwriting will also be a focus. The children will be starting with parts of speech and punctuation. Through our topic of 'Space', report writing, and narrative writing will both be undertaken to help develop, not only the skills needed for each style of writing, but also to develop the children's imaginations. Guided reading books will go home every Monday and Tuesday (and sometimes Wednesday and Thursday depending on the length of the book), along with their reading record which will have a suggestion for discussion. Wednesday and Thursday night will be an independent reading book or a novel with the emphasis on reading for enjoyment.

**ICT:** The children will use website addresses to find out more information on planets/space. They will use <https://www.coolkidfacts.com/planet-facts-for-kids/> and <https://www.planetsforkids.org/>. The children will be working on their Film and Animation task, using the STOPMOTION app.

### **What else is happening this term?**

**Daily Mile:** Weather permitting!!! We hope to take part in a jog/fast walk every day around the school grounds.

**PE:** Tuesday: trainers should be brought to school on this day.

**Homework:** Please ensure your child takes time over their homework, always presenting their work neatly. Can I please ask that all written homework is signed, including the Friday Check-up book. Please encourage your child to write out their spellings, as you call them out, as well as completing some mental maths every night.

**Prayers:** All children have received the prayers we will be using this year. Please continue to pray with your child, this will really help with preparation when they make their sacrament later in the year.

## Our Golden Rules for Primary 4

Smile

Share

Use kind hands, feet, and words.

Be well-mannered.

Please put your hand up to speak.

Walk in the school.

Work things out without fighting.

Tidy up after yourself.

## Our Playground Rules

Let others join in and play.

Help people who fall.

Make others smile and be happy.

Line up properly and don't skip the line.