



Year 5 SPRING TERM ONE Curriculum Overview



WRITING

READING



DATES AND INFORMATION:

Brightstorm by Vashti Hardy is an adventure novel about twins Maudie and Arthur Brightstorm, whose famous explorer father is reported dead after a failed expedition. When the twins discover clues suggesting the official story is not true, they secretly join the airship **Brightstorm** to uncover what really happened. As they travel to dangerous and mysterious places, they face prejudice, betrayal, and hidden motives, while learning to trust themselves and each other. The story explores themes of truth, courage, and resilience, as the twins fight to protect their father's reputation and discover their own strengths.

Non-fiction (Mars Transmission) In this unit, children will be writing a non-fiction report inspired by the film *The Martian*. They will focus on writing a clear and engaging transmission-style report, using features of formal non-fiction writing. Children will develop their use of high-level vocabulary and technical language linked to space and science, as well as time adverbials to organise information clearly. They will also practise using adverbs of possibility to show uncertainty and scientific reasoning. This unit supports children in improving their vocabulary choices, sentence structure and ability to write for a specific purpose and audience.

Narrative (Short film) *One Small Step* / Poetry - *The Highwayman*
The children will also be developing their writing through the short film *One Small Step* and the narrative poem *The Highwayman*. They will explore character, atmosphere and emotion, using rich vocabulary, varied sentence structures and descriptive language to create thoughtful responses and extended pieces of writing inspired by both texts.

MATHS

Maths: Multiplication and Division

In this unit, children will further develop their understanding of multiplication and division and interpreting remainders, drawing on a variety of written methods and applying knowledge of multiples. It encourages problem solving while also exploring efficient methods.

Fractions:

In this unit, children are introduced to the concept of multiplying fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers and extend their learning of fractional amounts using visual and written strategies. Children will continue to build their confidence with problem solving and explore efficient methods for fractions as operators.



Dates for this term:
Life Education (SCARF)
Year 5 PIXL Week - w/b 26th Jan
21st January- PACT National
Popcorn day - film
Photographer in school - 4th Feb
Share a story - 12th Feb

PE Days: Tuesday and Friday

SCIENCE

Science: Earth and Space

This unit gives children the opportunity to star-gaze by learning more about the Earth and the celestial bodies in our solar system. Starting with an exploration of each planet - from Mercury to Neptune - this unit then explores how scientific ideas surrounding Earth's movement and placement have changed and developed over time. The children will complete an assortment of fascinating Mission Assignments to deepen their understanding of the Moon, time zones and the night and day cycle.



GEOGRAPHY

Our connected World:

This unit enables the children to develop an understanding of time zones, how the world is connected and how geographers divide the world into sections for locational purposes (latitude, longitude and tropics). Children will learn about global trade, understanding how goods are moved around the world and the impact of weather. They will learn about drought and flooding and how these can be devastating for farmers and crops.



PSHE

Keeping Safe:

In this unit, children will learn about managing risk and making safe, informed choices. They will explore common risks online, how these risks can be reduced, and the factors that can influence people to take risks, such as peer pressure and misinformation. Children will also learn about social norms around legal drugs, particularly smoking. They will discuss common misconceptions about how many young people smoke and how understanding the true facts can help people make healthier choices. The unit supports children in developing confidence, critical thinking, and decision-making skills to help them stay safe and well.



WAYS TO HELP AT HOME:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least 5x a week and talk to them about what they have read.

Continue to help your child learn their times tables.

Talk to the children about the spelling pattern that we are learning about that week.



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

In this unit, children will learn how simple electrical circuits work, including key components such as batteries, wires, switches and motors. They will explore how motors use electricity to create movement and look at everyday products that use motors. Children will then design, make and evaluate their own motorised product, thinking carefully about its purpose and how well it works. The unit helps develop practical skills, creativity, and an understanding of how electrical products are designed and used.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be set on **Fridays** and given in the following **Wednesday**.

Reading (5 x 10 mins /week)
Spelling shed (3x 10 mins/week)
TT Rockstars (3x 10 mins/week)
A piece of maths (40 mins per week)

TEXTS COVERED THIS TERM:

