

Year 5/6  
Curriculum Newsletter  
Autumn 2 2021

**In English**, we will be studying the novel, "The Storm Keeper's Island" by Catherine Doyle. We will be using all of our reading skills to help us unpick the text; learning about character, plot and inference. We will then try to apply some of Doyle's techniques in our own writing. At the end of the term, we will be studying some narrative seasonal poetry, considering the impact of rhythm, rhyme and intonation. We will continue with our small, guided group reading each week, reading complimentary texts to our novel to compare features. Students who have re-read the text (set as a home learning task) have found it most helpful when returning to discuss it with their group the following week.

**In P.E.**, we will be completing a gymnastics unit called 'Press and Go'. Children will create and perform a floor and apparatus sequence of 6-8 actions which combine press and go actions with other actions. In outdoor P.E, we will be learning cricket with the KICK external coaches. Children will learn batting and bowling skills.

**In R.E.**, we will discuss the place of Incarnation and Messiah within the 'big story' of the Bible. We will show how Christians put their beliefs about Jesus' incarnation into practise in different ways in celebrating Christmas.

Our new class book is "The Storm Keepers Island"

This half term our theme  
is 'Star Gazers'

**Journey through space, the final frontier. Navigate beyond the Sun, the magnificent, blazing star at the centre of our Solar System.**

**In science**, we will be exploring the Solar System, looking closely at the size and scale of the Earth, Sun and Moon. We will examine how the Earth's rotation causes day and night, as well as exploring how the Moon orbits the Earth.

**In geography**, we will be analysing and comparing different places using aerial photographs, maps and atlases. Children will identify geographical features, such as countries, continents, volcanoes, rivers and impact craters.

**In art**, we will use our science knowledge to create textile art, based on the theme 'Moonscapes'. Regular night sky gazing to note colours and ideas would help to inspire this piece.

**In computing**, we will be continuing to learn how to safely and effectively search the internet. Children will also learn e-safety as part of this unit.

**In French**, we will be learning about vegetables. We will continue to develop our vocabulary and confidence with pronunciation.

**In music**, we will be considering how our solar system has inspired musicians throughout the centuries. This will involve listening to classical musician Gustav Holtz's Planet's Suite and contemporary music by Elton John and David Bowie.

**Maths**

In Y6 maths, we will begin with a unit on fractions, recapping improper fractions, equivalent fractions and mixed numbers. We will also learn to add and subtract fractions as well as find fractions of amounts. Finally, we will complete a geometry unit looking at position and direction. In Y5 maths, we will be looking a multiplication and division, including factors, multiples and prime numbers, as well as dividing and multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000. We will also complete a measurement unit on perimeter and area.



**Reminders**

All children need to have their reading book and planner in school every day. Children are expected to read at home a minimum of 5 times a week. This should be recorded in their planners and will be checked by teachers weekly on Monday mornings.

**Home Learning**

Home learning tasks (maths, reading and spelling) are given on Fridays and must be returned by Thursday the following week. Home learning tasks will be set as assignments on the class Teams page. A half termly project will be distributed in week 1 on Teams.

**P.E**

P.E is on Mondays and Tuesdays for Albatross and St Louis, and Monday and Thursday for Bell class. P.E kit must be in school on those days.

**Dates for your diary:**



- Science Day - 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Albatross Class assembly - 24<sup>th</sup> November
- Cross country competition - 1<sup>st</sup> December (selected pupils)
- Inter-house cross country - 7<sup>th</sup> December

**Communication** Please write urgent messages in planners which can be checked regularly. You can also email the office who will send on messages to the necessary teachers.