



# Curriculum Newsletter

## UPPER SCHOOL - Spring 2023

**English** In English this term, we will be focusing on the key areas of learning the children need to secure ready for next year.

After Easter, we will begin our unit on the book War of the Worlds! We will explore the text first before writing a newspaper story and an explanation text.

In guided reading, we will continue to work through the reading domains and learn how to use the text to support our inferences and make links and connections between words and text. We will be investigating a range of non-fiction texts.

Reading for pleasure will continue to be a key aspect of our learning and the children will experience a range of different activities such as listening to a class reader, DEAR (Drop everything and read) and class reading cafes.

### PDL

In our Personal Development Learning have been learning to value and listen to others and show empathy in Spring 1.

In Spring 2 we will be recognising the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.

We will be having assemblies ran by the NSPCC on Speak out. Stay safe.

### Maths

Like English this term, we will be focussing on the key aspects of maths which will ensure that the children are ready for next year.

In year 5 maths, we will continue to work on formal calculation strategies for all 4 operations. We will be learning; how to use a protractor to measure angles accurately, how to represent data in a variety of ways, how to read scales and solve problems based on the data.

Year 6 will begin revision towards the summer 1 tests. Focus will be on problem solving in all areas of mathematics. We will also continue to develop the understanding of arithmetic and ensure that calculation strategies are secure.

### Knowledge & Understanding

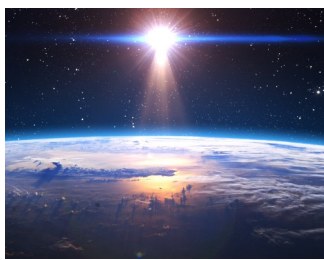
**Science** Our unit for this term is space. We started the space unit looking at what we need to survive on a planet., learning the order of planets, the conditions on the different planets including distance from the Earth. We will have a look at the idea of gravity, how day and night works, phases of the moon and seasons.

**RE** In RE, we have been learning about the concept of peace and how it is significant to Buddhists. We will then move on to Easter and what it symbolises for Christians.

**History and Geography**—We have been investigating the history of Portsmouth and key events. We will discover the topography of Portsmouth in 1545 and how it continue to influence Portsmouth today. We will be visiting The Mary Rose.

**Spanish** We are learning about how to describe the school day, including times of day and subjects we prefer and those we do not.

Out of This World



### Being Creative

**Music** Some classes are learning the violin and the recorder this term with tuition from Hampshire Music Services. Other classes are learning about how notation can be formed and how to use it to play music.

**Computing** In computing lessons we will be learning about conditional starts , their purpose when programming and how we can write algorithms using them

**DT** This half-term, we will be making cam toys. We will begin by exploring cams and how they work, before using this knowledge to design, make and evaluate our own toy.

### Physical Education

This half term we have been learning about effective balance in gymnastics and how to play tag rugby including areas such as passing technique and movement. Next half term we will be learning about badminton and football while Year 5 continue to swim on Fridays.

### Get Involved!

Our expectation is that children should read at least 5x a week at home and these reads at home be logged using the Boom Reader app or web page.

Telling the time and knowing multiplication facts and division facts for the tables up to 12 x 12 are essential skills and should be practised at home.

### Web links (maths resources/games)

<https://doodlelearning.com/for-schools#student-popup>  
(your child should know their log in details)

<https://go-read.co.uk/>

### Key Information

- We have our trip to visit the Mary Rose for Year 6 on Wednesday 8th March and for Year 5 on Thursday 9th March.
- All children need to bring in a water bottle and coat each day. We will continue to go outside for break and lunch even in light rain.
- Year 6 pupils should continue to complete their SATs Buster books starting on Set B after half term.