

Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery

Curriculum Matters



Term **Spring 1**
Year Group **5**
Teacher **Mrs R MacLeod**

Please note that not all subject areas will necessarily be taught each term and we cannot write down everything we teach!

Topic

Blast Off!

This term we will be learning about our solar system with particular emphasis on:

- Space travel and rockets
- The earth, sun and moon
- Famous space scientists

Following on from our astronaut training day, children will find out more about the lives of space explorers, learn about the possibility of space travel and write a holiday brochure for Mars.

Literacy

We will read and write instructions and explanations including game rules, recipes and 'how to' guides, with an emphasis on organisation and clarity. We will look at news stories about space and write our own article and promotional leaflet.

Our class book is 'George's Secret Key to the Universe' by Lucy and Stephen Hawking.

Our grammar focus is the use of language and verb forms to express possibility while in spelling we will be concentrating on Y5 and Y6 compulsory spellings.

Numeracy

We will be following the National Mathematics Curriculum for Year 5.

The topic for this term is fractions. This will include:

- Comparing and ordering fractions
- Identifying equivalent fractions
- Adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions
- Converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions
- Solving fractions problems and puzzles

Art and Design Technology

In art, children will use paint to create abstract backgrounds for rocket pictures and look at how artists have represented the sky.

In Design Technology, children will make scale models of the solar system.

Science

Our science lessons will be linked to our topic. Children will find out how the relationship between the earth, sun and moon creates day and night and the seasons of the year. They will learn more about planets, stars and eclipses. Creating graphs to show daylight hours, temperature changes and distances will link their science learning to maths skills.

PE and GAMES

Our class will be participating in the Derbyshire 560 sport and healthy lifestyle programme, taught by an external specialist. Please ensure that children have suitable warm clothing for PE as will be working outside unless it is actually pouring with rain or snowing!

Helping at Home

Topic

Help at home to enhance your child's interest and knowledge in our space topic would be great. You could look together for media stories about space, explore the European Space Agency website (great section for children), spot constellations on a clear night and even visit the National Space Centre in Leicester if you would like a family day out!

Reading

Please make sure your child reads regularly – this is a crucial element of their educational success. We will be launching a whole school reading initiative early in the term and it would be great if you could give this your support at home as it is designed to promote reading for pleasure outside school.

Spelling

The spellings that children bring home are linked to regular spelling work at school. Please help your child to learn these, use them in sentences (orally is fine!) and discuss the spelling patterns and rules with them.

Maths

Any work done at home on fractions would be great. This could be done in the context of money, length, weight or capacity. Helping children see fractions visually (cakes, recipes, pizza!) will support them in better understanding of the topic.