

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Here is an overview of what we will be studying over the next term.

ENGLISH:

Road's End: The children will be studying a short animation by Bri Meyer looking at how tension and suspense is built and exploring the characters. If you would like to view the video, you can watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQN-KvFvTJg>

Biographies about astronauts: In this unit the children will look at writing a biography based on an astronaut of their choice. It will be a good opportunity for the children to carry out their own research.

Persuasion: The persuasion unit will focus on our topic of Space, persuading people to sign up to become a part of the Mars mission.

The Piano: This short film clip follows the life of an elderly man who plays the piano whilst remembering key memories from his life. If you would like to view the video, you can watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4E0eRCotUko>

MATHS: in maths this term we will be covering the following areas:

- Number and Place Value – this will include ordering, rounding and Roman Numerals
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions – which includes decimals and percentages
- Measure – this will include conversion of metric measure, perimeter, area and time
- Geometry – which will include 2D and 3D shapes, as well as measuring, drawing and calculating angles.

TOPIC:

To Infinity and Beyond: The children will be reaching for the skies this term as they learn all about The Earth, Sun and Moon as well as providing great opportunities for art and DT alongside an extended Music and Dance unit.

RE: The children will be looking at: What would Jesus do? Can we live by the values of Jesus in the twenty-first century?

Science: This term the children will be focusing on Physical Processes – electrical circuits, sound, light, forces as well as linking their science to our space topic.

PSHE: The children will be setting themselves challenges in the 'Going for Goals' unit and celebrating themselves in the 'Good to be Me' topic.

PE: Children must have PE kits (including suitable footwear) in school every day. In PE lessons children will be taking part in dance and gym

Homework: Homework will be set every day and the timetable will run as follows:

Monday	Reading and spelling* (Reading record to be signed)
Tuesday	Number clubs and times table practice
Wednesday	Reading and spelling* (Reading record to be signed)
Thursday	Topic (To be handed in the following Monday)
Friday	Numeracy or Literacy (To be handed in the following Monday)

*Note that a separate spelling homework letter and topic letter will be sent out. For the year 6 children there will be a separate letter sent out about revision guides shortly.

How can you help your child?

Here are a few ideas of things that you can do at home that will help your child's development:

- Help them to complete their homework and take pride in what they produce. It is vital that children complete their homework on time as it gives the opportunity to consolidate what they have learnt in class.
- Read with them as often as possible or ask them questions about what they have been reading if they are more confident.
- Encourage them to pack their own school bag, taking responsibility for their own things.
- Ask them what they have done at school and discuss it (hopefully they won't say, "Nothing!").
- Correct their speech if they say things incorrectly.
- Orally practice times tables or related facts e.g. $6 \times 7 = 42$, $0.6 \times 7 = 4.2$.
NOTE: By Year 6 children should know all of their times tables up to 12×12 .
- Ask them to tell you what the time is using analogue clocks.
- Challenge them to add up shopping items or select which option is best value for money.
- Play educational games on Internet.
- Help them become independent learners by having set routines e.g. always do homework and go to bed at a set time.

I am usually available to meet parents to discuss any issues quickly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays after school and am also available in the playground before school. If you require a longer meeting, we can reach a mutually convenient date. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely,
Mike Swanson