

# Touch the stars

YEAR 2

SPRING 2 2023/24

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

This half term, we will explore space! This space themed learning will incorporate many curriculum areas. In History the children will be learning about the historical event of the first moon landing and what it is like to go to space. They will even be given the opportunity to try some space food! In DT they will design and build their own space buggies and in Computing use the inspiration of the Lunar rovers to consider what an algorithm is with the opportunity to use the Bluebots and tac tiles to develop their own precise programs. Our learning will be enhanced later on in the half term by an exciting visit from the planetarium!

## ENGLISH

Our first text for this term is 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram. Through this delightful story we will follow the life of Bob. The story will gradually unfold to lead the children through his role as a cleaner on the moon. This will provide perfect opportunities for various writing activities such as a setting description leading to a letter home. We will then use the book 'A Field Trip to the Moon' by John Hare where the children will be given the opportunity to write a character description and write their own narrative based on the text.

RWI will continue on a daily basis alongside group and whole class reading which will use texts to improve fluency and understanding of what they read.

## MATHS

The children will begin the half term by looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes before going on to recognise, name and write fractions as equal parts of a shape. They will then continue their learning about multiplication and division and be able to solve problems using the skills and facts they have learnt.

Alongside these areas we are continually keeping fluent in other areas of calculating, such as addition and subtraction.

## SCIENCE

In Science we are moving on to looking at plants. We will begin by looking at a range of seeds and bulbs and finding out which part of a plant the seed of bulb comes from. We will then develop our understanding of the purpose of each part of a plant. Towards the end of the half term we will investigate how temperature can affect the germination process of a plant.

We will also continue with the next phase of our longitudinal study on animal habitats now that spring has arrived.

## RE

Starting with the children's own experiences of being welcomed, there is opportunity in this topic for debate about what this really means and to consider whether it is always right to be welcoming. The children will learn about Palm Sunday by watching BBC clips and hearing stories from the Bible of how Jesus was welcomed by many but despised by some during his journey back into Jerusalem. Through visualisation, they will imagine and role-play the scenes, exploring their own feelings as if present at the time.

## GEOGRAPHY

Not applicable.

## HISTORY

The children will study the important historical event of Neil Armstrong being the first man to land on the moon. Along side Neil Armstrong, the children will also learn about other astronauts Helen Sharman and Tim Peake. Within this project the children will look at the reasons behind going to space, place the missions on a timeline of events and will consider the equipment available at the time and its influence on the outcomes of their expedition. They will even get the opportunity to try some space food!

## ART

Not applicable.

## DT

During this project, the children will research, design and then build their own model space buggy for travelling on the moon. This will realise the need for specific features and needs of this mode of transport. Through this activity, they will learn how the mechanism of an axle works and try to construct it using a range of different methods. Their chosen method will then be included in their final design, taking into account the dimensions needed for their choice of base. Using a replica bumpy moon surface, they will check for suitability of their design.

## MUSIC

In Music the children will be exploring timbre (identifying the way sounds are made) and texture (recognising and responding to the different layers of sounds used in music). They will develop an understanding of different timbres and textures and some ideas for applying their new skills and understanding creatively. It links with the project of 'Touch the Stars' and will encourage the children to draw upon their learning in other curriculum areas.

## FRENCH

Not applicable.

## COMPUTING

The children will be continuing to develop their algorithm learning through programming of Bluebots and tac tiles. This will link to the remote controlling of NSAS space buggies and will include 1/4, 1/2 and 3/4 turns.

The children will learn how to explain simple guidance for using technology in different environments and settings e.g. accessing online technologies in public places and the home environment. They will also be able to say how those rules can help anyone accessing online technologies.

## PE

This term the children will be practising the fundamentals of all sport by developing balance, stability and learning to land safely.

Through Get Set 4 PE, the children will focus on developing their social and team building skills as well as learning new target skills and utilising these in sports games.

## PSHE

**Belonging to a Community:** Belonging to a group; roles and responsibilities; being the same and different in the community.

**Media Literacy and Digital Resilience:** The internet in everyday life; online content and information.

**Money and Work:** What money is; needs and wants; looking after money.