



Spring 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to Spring 2!

We hope you have had a wonderful half term and are ready for an action-packed Spring 2!

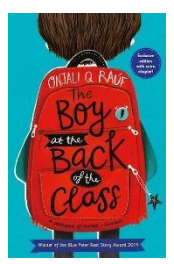
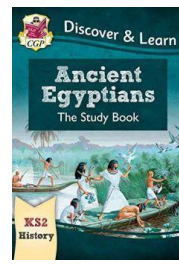
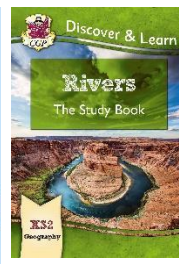
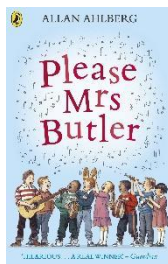
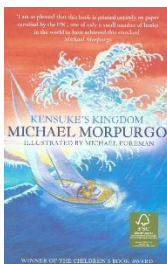
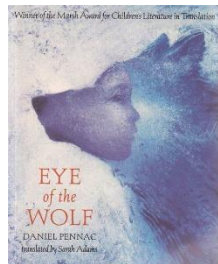
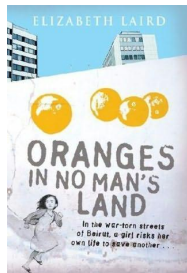


Our learning will be based around **Akon City** and **Space** this half term.

Reading for Pleasure!

We have been looking at how we can enjoy reading, why we should read outside of lessons and what books we would like more of in our classes. Did you complete the reading challenge with your child? What books have they read? What did you learn about their reading and their interests?

These are the books we have read this year so far, can you talk to your child about these books?



Reading

This half term we will be reading 'A Young Astronaut's Handbook' by Tim Peake as our class reader. We will practise our summarising skills by identifying the main ideas from what we have read and completing summaries in our reading logs. It is a book full of information and interesting facts about how to survive in space!

Our reading lessons will focus on a range of reading skills including:

- Retrieving information in the text
- Understanding new vocabulary in context and considering why an author uses these words
- Using clues from the text to work out the feelings of characters
- Making predictions about what will happen next
- Summarising the main events and themes of a text

To support your child at home, please read with them every day. In year 5 we are also really focusing on our use of Reading Plus. Children can also access Reading Plus at home using the link below:

<https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/>

Writing

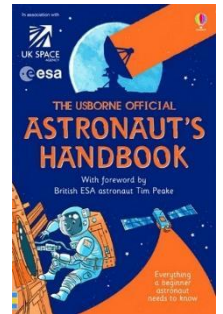
Our writing units this half term will be based around our topic of 'Akon City', Space and the book 'The Young Astronaut's Handbook.' Using this text, the children will write a diary entry from the perspective of an astronaut travelling into space. In addition, we will use this learning to write an explanation text about how to become an astronaut. During these units, the pupils will focus on using apostrophes for contractions and colons to introduce lists. For example:

I can't believe I'm saying this but I'm finally here.

To be an astronaut, you must be: dedicated, resilient and knowledgeable.

Please see the link below for further information linked to apostrophes for contractions:

[Using apostrophes - BBC Bitesize](#)



We will then use our learning from our topic to write a newspaper report about discoveries on the surface of Mars. We will consider the features of newspapers and how they should be presented.

Please support your child's spelling at home by encouraging them to learn their weekly spellings and complete spelling activities on Spellzone using the link below:

<https://www.spellzone.com/>

Their username and password can be found on the inside cover of their homework book.

Spelling

We are learning these spelling patterns this half term:

- Words ending in /zhun/ spelt -sion e.g. collision, decision, confusion
- Adding the prefix il- e.g. illegal, illegible
- /c/ sound spelt -que and the /g/ sound spelt -gue e.g. antique, catalogue, cheque, colleague

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will be covering:

Decimals- reading, writing and comparing numbers up to two decimal places. We will also be learning how add and subtract decimal number and to round decimal numbers to the nearest tenth and the nearest whole number.

Fractions, decimals and percentages- finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages.

Geometry- the different types of angle, how to measure angles, parallel and perpendicular lines and different types of polygons (shapes).

[What are decimals? - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Year 5 Lines and angles - Year 5 Maths - BBC Bitesize](#)

History and Geography

In Geography, we will be learning about Akon City. We will investigate the plans for Akon City and will explore what makes a city sustainable. The children will be thinking about the resources and infrastructure needed for a modern city and to understand the benefits and complications of building a new city.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 24th February E-Safety week

Friday 28th February Y5 Forest School starts

Friday 7th March World Book Day dress up

Friday 7th March 3.30pm School council book sale

Friday 7th March Year 5 Family Assembly

Monday 10th March Science Week

Tuesday 18th March Parents Evening 3.30-5pm

Wednesday 19th March Parents Evening 3.30-6pm

Friday 28th March Y5 Science Museum trip

Friday 4th April Year 1 Family Assembly 1.30pm

Friday 4th April - end of term 2pm finish

Monday 21st April Bank Holiday

Tuesday 22nd April Summer 1 term starts

Campaign

Our class campaign this term is linked to 'Keep Kind.' We will be learning about gender equality in our own and other countries and will link this to our learning about the plans for Akon City in Senegal. We will consider the meaning of equality, evaluate gender equality around the world and work to promote this concept.



Science

Our Science topic this half term will be 'Animals including Humans.' We will explore the different stages of the human life cycle and consider the developments at each stage. We will explore changes that the body goes through during puberty and the gestation periods (lengths of pregnancy) for different mammals.

We will develop our scientific skills by gathering and recording data, answering questions and drawing conclusions. The children will complete a lot of research in this unit.

The links below provide some useful information about the topics we will be studying:

[How do humans change during their lifetime? - BBC Bitesize](#)

ICT

Our topic this half term is 'Programming- Selection in Physical Computing.' We will develop our understanding of programming and the components it requires. In addition, we will introduce conditions and see how these conditions influence our algorithms.

PSHE

This half term our PSHE unit is 'Healthy Me.' During this topic, the children will think about how to keep their bodies healthy through diet, exercise and lifestyle choices. In addition, they will learn about how to keep themselves emotionally and mentally healthy by discussing issues such as peer pressure, bullying and friendships.

RE

Our focus religion this half term is Judaism. Our key question is 'Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children?' We will learn about Jewish religious practices and beliefs.

PE

PE lessons this half term will focus on Football and Gymnastics.

Class PE Day: **Wednesday**

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on **Wednesdays**.

Music

The children will be exploring jazz music in their music lessons and will be developing their ability to create and write music. Throughout the topic they will be exploring how to use musical vocabulary accurately e.g. tempo (speed), volume and rhythm.

Spanish

In Spanish, our focus for this half term is 'Spanish towns.' The children will learn how to use language linked to where to go and what to do.

Art and DT

This half term in art, the children will be creating art work based on the planets of the Solar System.

Please come and speak with me if you have any questions or concerns and I look forward to working with you all.

[Visit our website for dates, news and other information](#)
