

Year 5 Newsletter



Spring 1

Dear Families,

Our curriculum theme for this Spring term is 'Beyond', considering how we relate to the wider world and the universe at large. Our Science will provide a foundation to our understanding of this theme, with a focus on space and Earth's place in the solar system, and the forces that keep our planet in the right place. Meanwhile in Art, our featured artists, Lone Parkin, will inspire a sense of wonder at the beauty of what lies outside our orbit.

Our key story this term, *The Girl of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave, presents us with the story of a girl who longs to see the world beyond the island that she lives on. We hope that through this tale our children might also come to recognise that there is an exciting, vibrant world beyond what they may already know, and that each one of us can find adventure and belonging in it.

Each one of us is on a learning journey, travelling into the 'beyond' of new knowledge and experience. Sometimes this can be challenging and uncomfortable, but we're not facing it alone. Together we can chart these unknown places and find new worlds of opportunity.

Mr Starling and Mr Daniel



Curriculum Theme: Beyond

English - 'Defeating the Monster' stories. *The Girl of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Maths - Fractions and Decimals, Angles

Science - Forces, Earth and Space

Geography - Navigation and map-reading

RSHE - My relationships

DT: Push Rockets

Art - Lone Parkin, planetary Textures and nebulae paintings.

French - Food

Computing - Selection in physical computing

PE - Rugby

RE - Christian expressions of faith

School Value

This half term, our value focus is **ASPIRATION**. Linking this to our curriculum theme, astronauts have huge aspirations to achieve their goal of travelling into space. They have to dream and work hard in the hope to achieve this goal. In Spring Term of Year 5, we will be exploring what our aspirations for the future are and set goals in order to achieve these. We will encourage the children to think big and have high aspirations for the future by writing aspiration letters to their future selves.

P.E / Forest School / Music

PE this half term will be every Monday, where we will be playing rugby. Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kits that day. Again, long sleeves are encouraged during the winter months as we will be playing outside.

This half term Year 5 will have Forest School on Fridays. Tereshkova will have their first session on Friday 12th of January and Curie will have their first on Friday 19th of January. Each class will then continue to have their sessions on alternate Fridays through the term. Children will need to come dressed with long sleeves and legs, outdoor clothing such as waterproof coats, hats and gloves, and a suitable outdoor footwear to change into. It will be the middle of winter and we will be going out no matter the weather, so be prepared!

Music will continue to be supported by the Norfolk Music Hub team on Thursday afternoons.

Home Learning

Homework will be set on SumDog on a Wednesday and due in on a Monday. This will involve a reading comprehension and a maths based task. Spellings will be sent out at the start of the half term and children are expected to practice the allocated set of words each week.

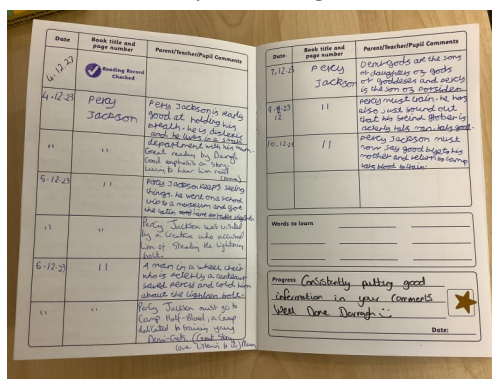
Suggested reading

The Explorer - Katherine Rundell
Cosmic - Frank Cottrell-Boyce

The Mysteries of the Universe:
Discover the best-kept secrets of space (DK Children's Anthologies)

Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read **every day**, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, **starting a new page each week**. Star example: Darragh (Curie)



Important Dates

Thursday 4th January - First day of term
Thursday 11th January - Year 5 Parent Cafe
25th January - Science Workshop

A look at our learning so far...

Look at our school website to find out more about some of our learning...

Drake Radio



SumDog



Year 5 (2022/2023)



School Councils and groups

Throughout the Autumn term the school council has been focusing on supporting others in our community and fundraising. We have collected and delivered donations for the local food bank. We then worked hard to plan a fundraising event for Children in Need and raised £1866. In Spring we will be doing a project linked to school values and behaviour.

Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement. We can also earn a class marble when we work well as a class to achieve something.

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website.

Year 5 total merits this year: 3,875

Year 5 total marbles this year: 68

Attendance

The attendance expectation attendance at Drake Primary School is 100%.

We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

Tereshkova attendance this year: 95.74%

Curie attendance this year: 96.68%

Pupil voice

I have enjoyed learning about the Egyptians because it's fascinating learning about how different their lives were to ours.

I have enjoyed history because it is a subject I love.

Safeguarding Notice

We have been made aware of the increase of vaping in children and would like families to be aware of the risks. These risks may also affect children who access vapes left around or found.

School is a non-smoking and non-vaping site. Please ensure that you do not use vapes whilst on school grounds.



Information links

[NHS—Young people and vaping](#)

[Kidshealth—e-cigarettes](#)

The website is a fantastic window into learning at our school. Year 5 information including photos, curriculum and timetables can be found at <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/2023-24-6/>

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office. We will either email you or arrange a time to call you back.

Mr Starling and Mr Daniel