



Year Two Topic Letter

22nd December, 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you will have a wonderful Christmas holiday and enjoy all the excitement the season brings as well as have a very happy New Year! We are looking forward to an exciting next half-term as our topic is '**Journey into Space.**' This topic always inspires the children's imagination and makes them want to become astronauts who will discover the mysteries of space for themselves!

Week 1/2: Luna World



We shall be learning about the Moon and those amazing explorers who have been into space. We shall be finding out about intrepid explorers such as Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake. We shall also be focusing upon stories about the Moon as well as having an '**Aliens and Astronauts Tea Party**' on the Moon! This will be on **Thursday 11th January 2018** in the afternoon. Please note your child will be required to dress up as an alien or an astronaut for this event! (Please see attached details!)

Week 3/4/5: In a galaxy far, far away...

As space explorers, we shall continue our journey by creating our own space landscape inspired by Vincent Van Gogh's 'Starry Night.' We shall be creating our very own planet profile and writing a description of our imaginary planet including its terrain, inhabitants and special features. We shall also be reading texts which inspire us to think about darkness and space such as 'The Dark' by Lemony Snicketts and 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram.



Week 6: Science Week:

As scientists we shall also be having a '**Whizz, Bang, Pop Day**' in our Science Week where the children will have opportunities to record predictions and observations as well as participate in experiments that 'whizz, bang and pop!' That week there will also be a **Year Two 'Come and See afternoon on Tuesday 30th January 2018 at 2.45 pm** where we will be inviting the children to share a homework project. (Please read on for further details.)



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What you can do to help!!!

- Go to the library and read information books about space and the solar system as well as enjoy stories about space travel or aliens!
- Look on the internet for information about Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake.
- If you are planning a day out, why not visit the Science Museums in Winchester or London? The Winchester branch has an amazing planetarium cinema where you can watch fantastic films such as 'Polaris, the Space Submarine' or 'Secret of the Cardboard Rocket' which are suitable for all the family. Please go to http://www.winchestersciencecentre.org/planetarium/planetarium-shows/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMlzoDT1fya2AIV773tCh3OhgDOEAAYASACEgLL1fD_BwE#tag=.children&type= for further details. The Science Museum in London of course has some incredible rockets, satellites and even the Apollo 10 Command Module!
- Play with 'Moon Sand' which you can make into models or create your own lunar landscape.
- You can even use some of your unwanted large Christmas packaging and help your child make their own rocket to travel through time and space!

Dates for your Diary

- **Spring Term begins - Monday 8th January 2018**
- **Aliens and Astronauts Tea Party - Thursday 11th January 2018**
- **Year Two Family Breakfast - Tuesday 16th January 2018**
- **Writing Workshop for Parents - 9.00 am - 10.00 am (School Hall)**
- **INSET DAY - Friday 26th January 2018**
- **Year Two 'Come and See Afternoon' - 2.45 pm in classrooms**
- **'Look at our Books!' - 3.00 pm**

Transfer to Junior School

Please can we remind you that you need to have completed your Transfer to Junior School form online by **Monday January 15th 2018**. Applications online cannot be made after this date although paper applications will be processed after all online applications. Please contact the Civic Offices or go to their admissions page at <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/learning-and-schools/schools/school-admissions.aspx> for more information should you not have the application letter detailing how to go about applying for a junior school place.



Mrs Fiona Shellard

Mrs Emma Hobday

Willow Class Teacher

Hazel Class Teacher

Year Two Team Leader



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Year Two 'Aliens and Astronauts Tea Party'

Friday, 22nd December 2018

Dear Parents,

We will be having a Year Two 'Aliens and Astronauts Tea Party' on Thursday 11th January 2018. (Please note: it is the first Thursday back!!!)

This event will happen during the afternoon of this day!

Please ensure your child brings an alien or an astronaut costume for the afternoon in a named bag! Your outfit can be pre-bought or completely home-made!

They will also need to bring a **named paper plate with some food** that they would like to eat 'whilst on the moon.' Please provide **light snacks** as children will already have had their lunch. Please ensure the plates are **covered with cling film** to keep them fresh. We will put the food in the fridge during the day.

We shall play some space-themed games to make it fun and memorable!

Mrs Fiona Shellard

Willow Class Teacher

Year Two Leader



Space Project!

Friday 22nd December 2018

Dear Parents,

As part of the '**Journey Into Space**' topic which we shall be enjoying next half-term, we would like your child to get involved in a practical project of their own design which we would like them to share during the **Year Two 'Come and See Afternoon'** on **Tuesday 30th January, 2018 at 2.45 pm in Willow and Hazel Classes.**

We would like your child to think about one of the following ideas linked to space:

- **The Solar System e.g. all the planets or one planet in particular**
- **An imaginary planet and/or an alien that lives there**
- **A famous astronaut e.g. Neil Armstrong/Peake**
- **Voyages in space**
- **Living in space**

We would then like the children to be **as creative as possible** in showing what they have learned about one of these topics. **They can create models, paint pictures, make posters etc with information attached e.g. some writing to show what they have learned.** They also need to be prepared to share their knowledge and creations with parents and other children during the 'Come and See Afternoon' as parents will be invited to move around the classrooms to see what children have made/found out.

We are giving you plenty of time to get thinking and/or creating with your child about this project! **(You have five weeks until the Come and See Afternoon. There is also an INSET day prior to the event!)**

We hope you will encourage your child to get involved with this project as it is both educational and most of **FUN!!!**

Mrs Fiona Shellard

Willow Class Teacher

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