



PLAINS FARM ACADEMY

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 1 - 2025

Mrs Harper



Literacy

In English this half term, we will be following using *When We Walked on the Moon* as our core text. The children will explore the Apollo missions and the achievements of astronauts, while developing their reading comprehension skills, such as retrieving information, summarising key ideas and using evidence to support their answers. They will be writing a non-chronological report about space exploration, focusing on structure, factual detail and technical vocabulary, as well as producing a narrative recount from an astronaut's perspective, using descriptive language and varied sentence structures. Alongside this, we will continue to develop grammar, punctuation and spelling, with a particular focus on fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and accurate use of tense.



DT

In Design and Technology, the children will be learning about food and nutrition through the context of cooking. They will describe the process of beef production, research a traditional recipe and suggest changes to improve or adapt it, and learn how to add nutritional value by carefully selecting ingredients. The unit will culminate in the children preparing and cooking their own version of a bolognese sauce, giving them the op-



P.E

In PE this term, your child will develop their skills and understanding in team games. They will learn about passing, positioning, and working together as part of a team. Through a variety of activities and small-sided games, children will improve their communication, decision-making, and tactical awareness, while enjoying being active and supporting one another.



Computing

In Computing this term, your child will develop their coding skills through a range of practical activities. They will review what they already know, simplify code to create playable games, and explore simulations, such as modelling traffic lights. Children will learn to break tasks into smaller steps, work with functions, and use different types of variables, including text strings. Throughout the unit, they will design and program their own games and simulations, building creativity, problem-solving skills, and confidence with technology.



Music

Livin' on a Prayer

This unit is focused around one song: Livin' On A Prayer. Children will learn through an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other classic rock songs.



Information

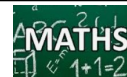
- * Please encourage your child to **read every day** and return their reading record and book to school daily.
- * Homework will be set on a Friday and this must be handed in by the following Wednesday. Homework is linked to your child's learning, therefore, it is vital it is completed.
- * Spellings will be given on Friday, please work with your child to learn these spellings, they will have a spelling quiz the following Friday.
- * Year 5 PE will be on Thursday and Friday, children must come to school in their PE kit.
- * Please label all of your child's clothes with their name—it always makes it easier to locate lost items of clothing at the end of a school day.
- * Please keep us up to date with who will be collecting your child from school each day by updating your named adult list kept in school.
- * Please ensure your child is in school on time everyday. Key stage 2 morning registration 8.45—8.55am, home time 3.25pm.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is vital for your child's progress. Each lesson builds on the last, so missing even a small amount of time in school can make it harder for children to keep up and feel confident in their learning. Being punctual is equally important, as arriving on time ensures children are settled and ready to learn from the very start of the day. Regular attendance and punctuality help your child to make the most of the exciting opportunities planned this term across all subjects.

Maths

In Maths, we will be following the *White Rose* scheme of learning. This half term, the children will focus on place value and addition and subtraction. They will learn to read, write and compare numbers up to 1,000,000, round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and beyond, and use efficient written and mental methods for addition and subtraction. We will also be applying these skills to problem-solving and reasoning activities, while continuing to build fluency and confidence in recalling key number facts. In addition to the main Maths lessons, the children will take part in daily arithmetic sessions. These short, focused activities help to strengthen speed and accuracy with calculations, build confidence in mental and written methods, and support overall fluency in all areas of mathematics. Regular practice in arithmetic ensures that pupils can apply their number skills more effectively across problem-solving and reasoning tasks.



Geography

In Geography this term, your child will learn about the Alps and the countries they stretch across. They will explore both physical features, like mountains and rivers, and human features, such as towns and roads, and will research the city of Innsbruck in more detail. The children will use a variety of ways to collect information, including questionnaires, maps, sketches, and photographs. They will also compare the geography of Innsbruck with their own local area. By the end of the unit, they will be able to describe key features of the Alps and answer the question: *What is life like in the Alps?*



Science

In Science this term, your child will be learning about forces. They will explore different types of forces such as gravity, friction, air resistance, and water resistance, and carry out a range of practical investigations to test how these forces work. The children will consider how forces can be both helpful and unhelpful in different situations and identify the forces at work. They will also learn about mechanisms such as pulleys, levers, and gears, and how these allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. By the end of the unit, your child will be able to explain how different forces act in everyday situations and how mechanisms can make tasks easier.



R.E

What does it mean if Christians believe God is loving and holy?

In RE this term, your child will learn what Christians believe about God, focusing on the ideas that God is loving and holy. They will explore key Bible texts from Isaiah, Psalm 103, and 1 John to understand how Christians describe God, using vocabulary such as "omnipotent," "omniscient," and "eternal." Children will consider why Christians believe God is forgiving and loving, and how this affects the lives of believers. They will also learn that, for many Christians, getting to know God is like getting to know a person.



PSHE

In PSHE this term, our unit is called *TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More)*. The children will learn about the positive qualities of working in a team, including how to communicate well and disagree respectfully. They will explore the skills needed for successful teamwork, such as compromise and collaboration, and will think about how to deal with unkind behaviour by creating supportive networks. The unit will finish by focusing on the importance of caring for one another and understanding the shared responsibilities that come with being part of a team.



French

In French this term, your child will be learning through the unit *Pleased to Meet You*. They will build on what they have learned in previous years by revisiting familiar vocabulary and phrases. They will learn how to express their emotions and begin to talk about future ambitions, practising the use of different tenses. Stories, role-play, and other engaging activities will provide opportunities to develop grammar and pronunciation, while continuing to grow their confidence in speaking and understanding French. By the end of the unit, your child will be able to hold simple conversations to introduce themselves and share information about their feelings and future plans.

