



As scientists, we become immersed in the world— and indeed the universe -around us. We begin by looking at materials and their properties. Our investigative skills are tested by separating solid and liquid materials and we also demonstrate reversible and irreversible changes. Later, we take a journey into space as we study the planets and our moon. Our visiting planetarium helps bring this closer to us and gives us a full understanding of our place in space. Finally, we conduct experiments to investigate different forces.



Following on from our topic of forces, we will become rocket designers! In DT this term, our brief will be to launch our rocket as high and as far as possible. Knowledge of air and water resistance and fair testing will be crucial to our design and we will also have the chance to practise our measuring of capacity and length.



Year 5 Autumn term The World Around Us



As geographers, we look at how human behaviour is affecting the world around us. Through the study of rainforests and climate change, we consider environmental challenges faces by both plants and animals. Our map skills are further developed by locating the equator, tropic and the world's rainforests.

This theme has been designed to engage the children in current affairs. By the end of the unit, they will understand how they can make a difference to the world around them as they are the future! To enhance the children's learning, we have a visiting planetarium in our school hall. This will allow the children to further develop their knowledge about space. They will also visit the MK Recycling centre (or have them visit us in a school workshop) to experience first-hand how the process of recycling takes place and learn about the alarming amount of plastics in our oceans. This then provides us a great stimulus to complete some persuasive writing in our English lessons.



We learn how to pace ourselves whilst running a long distance during cross-country where we are improving our stamina and fitness. We also learn how to control the ball with a tennis bat, using forearm and backhand and play small matches 1v1. In an environment of competitive game situations and teamwork, we will learn how to play handball. Handball is a great game for movement, throwing and catching, accuracy, teamwork and resilience. We will learn ways to throw the ball, attacking and defending and shooting. We will also use yoga as a way to improve our core, strength, flexibility and overall fitness.

Once we have been reminded how to stay safe online, as digital learners we use technology (including online encyclopaedias) to research Jane Goodall—a famous environmentalist. We learn how to use search engines effectively and look for reliable sources of information.



As artists, we will be using sketchbooks to try a number of ideas before finding a design we want to take to completion. We will be learning to draw shaded and shiny objects by adding tone to our work using different techniques. We will be inspired by the work of Vincent van Gogh and use his work as a starting point for our own compositions. We will increase our oil pastel skills using blending and layering techniques. We will also explore perspective and the role of the background, foreground and middle ground of our pieces of work.



As musicians, we learn to explore, select, combine and exploit a range of different sounds, specifically clusters to compose a space soundscape. These are shared with the class and we learn to listen closely and evaluate the compositions.

In preparation for Christmas, as singers and performers, we learn to confidently participate in a whole year group carol concert. We focus on honing our existing skills of correct breathing technique, maintaining pitch and tempo, enunciation and projection.



As linguists, we can now explain which foods we have for certain meals in French or German. We also are able to write a few short sentences to express our preferences. Our grammar knowledge now extends to being about to use a preposition. We can now also use a dictionary more effectively to make our work more our own. We are also given the opportunity to access books and classic stories from French or German speaking countries.



As responsible citizens, we explore what equality means for everyone in our school and in the wider world. We celebrate differences and can explain and describe customs and traditions that are celebrated in our own families as well as those celebrated in the wider community. We continue to learn how to keep ourselves safe online by being able to explain how peer pressure can influence our behaviour both in real life and online.



In RE, we explore what peace means to us. We explain what makes us feel peaceful and explore different symbols of peace. The story of the Christmas truce in WWII inspires us.

