

### Communication and Language and Literacy

This half term we will look at a variety of texts that link to Space. The children will have the chance to use their imagination to describe what they would see if they went to Space and create their own way to get there! We will continue learning about sentence writing; remembering to start with a capital letter, use finger spaces to separate our words and to always finish with a full stop. The children will continue practising these skills in our Drawing Club sessions. We will be exploring different vocabulary such as: Earth, star, planet, orbit, and moon within our lessons. We will also practise our interviewing skills as we will have the chance to interview an alien! The children will continue their blending skills as they continue their phonics lessons. We will be heavily focusing on spotting digraphs (two letters that make one sound e.g. 'ch' and 'sh') and trigraphs (three letters that make one sound e.g. 'igh' and 'air') in words within our books.

### Personal, Social, Emotional Development

Throughout this half term we are going to link our learning to our goals and dreams. Through looking at Neil Armstrong, we will discuss what he achieved and then reflect on the journey the children have taken since starting Year R. We will think about what we want to do when we are older and dive deeper into perseverance and not giving up. We will also look at caring for each other and caring for our planet. We will think about the friends that we have made in Year R and how we can be a kind friend to others.

### Physical Development

During our PE sessions we will be practising different fundamental movement skills. We are going to develop our gross motor skills by taking part in a space training mission! We will also create different movements to link to Space for example 'flying like rockets' and 'dancing like stars.' As part of David Attenborough week, we are going to get the apparatus out in the hall and move in different ways to match different animals!

### Mathematics

This half term we will be consolidating our counting skills; counting to larger numbers and developing a wider range of counting skills. We will develop an understanding of when groups can be subitised and when there is a need for counting. The children will also begin using Rekenrek to aid their subitising skills. We will compare quantities and numbers, including sets of objects which look different. The children will also begin to generalise about 'one more than' and 'one less than' numbers within 10. We will continue to use Number Blocks to support our Maths learning, using the characters to help us start understanding number bonds to 10 e.g.  $1 + 9$ ,  $2 + 8$ ,  $3 + 7$ ,  $4 + 6$ ,  $5 + 5$ . We will also continue to develop a sense of magnitude e.g. knowing 8 is quite a lot more than 2 but 4 is only a little bit more.

## Year R Faster than a Rocket Summer 1 2026



### Expressive Arts and Design

We are going to get creative with our Space theme and create lots of artwork linked to stars, planets and rockets by using different media such as junk modelling, chalk and rolling marbles in paint. As part of our DT lessons, we are going to make rockets and in our art lessons we are going to look in detail at making different collages.

### Understanding the World

We are going to learn all about Space travel and investigate Neil Armstrong's journey into space. We are also going to look at exploring the sky and what we can see. Through having a space exploration table in the classroom, the children will begin to create discussion and questions all about Space. In Science we will begin to think about the signs of summer and will use our knowledge to bring together our learning about the four seasons.

### How you can help at home:

- Write simple phrases and short sentences
- Continue to practise reading the key words which are sent home, and spelling them if appropriate
- Read with your child on a regular basis, discussing the story as you read it
- Explore numbers within 10. What numbers can you make using 10 objects?
- Adding and taking away using objects. You can encourage your child to come up with their own way to record this e.g. numbers, drawing pictures
- Count backwards from 20 to 0. You could then start at other numbers and continue to count backwards e.g. start at 12, start at 18
- Practise making words using the sound cards sent home