

Is there life on Mars?

As **WRITERS** children will be creating diary entries based on characters from the book 'Wonder'. They will also be creating biographies on the lives of historic astronauts like Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Tim Peak. In addition, they will be writing non-chronological reports about current themes and discoveries to do with space – including the possibility of colonising Mars! After finishing our book 'Wonder', children will be watching the film and writing a review comparing the book and the film.

As **READERS** children will be studying the text 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio. This heart-warming novel follows an extraordinary child, August Pullman, as he begins life at his new middle school. Children will be honing their retrieval, inference, deduction and fluency skills as they investigate the many colourful characters in this fantastic novel.

As **THEOLOGISTS** Y6 children will be studying Justice and Freedom and Y5 will be looking at Expressions of Faith.

As **MATHEMATICIANS** Y6 will be consolidating their understanding of place value and the four operations. Y5 will be developing their place value knowledge, as well as addition and subtraction. They will also look at statistics.

As **SCIENTISTS** children will be developing their knowledge and understanding of our solar system and space. They will be creating mnemonics to remember the order of planets; learning about the sun, moon and earth's orbits; how celestial bodies, like the moon, affect changes on Earth, why there is night and day; and defining 'days' and 'years' through looking at other planets in the solar system. They will spend some time looking at life in space: How do astronauts get to the ISS? What do they eat? How do they go to the toilet in zero gravity!? They will be developing their scientific investigation skills by undertaking investigative work into different forces like gravity, friction and wind resistance.

HOMEWORK: Y5 will receive either Maths or English homework every week. Y6 will receive Maths and English every week.

As well as weekly homework, children may also use their arts and craft skills to create model rockets to display in the

As **HISTORIANS** children will be looking at different approaches and theories about our solar system. They will find out how Ptolemy and Copernicus viewed the Sun and Earth differently. They will also look at the 'Space Race' and how countries competed to achieve scientific firsts!

In **PE** Y6 will be applying their racket and ball skills in badminton, developing their rugby skills and enhancing their skills in indoor athletics.

Y5 will be looking at various types of training to improve their fitness, strength and flexibility. They will be developing their gymnastic skills as well as enhancing their skills in indoor athletics.

This term we will be having intra-house competition in cross country and dodgeball, as well as many inter-school competitions.

As **ARTISTS** children will develop their painting and drawing skills. Drawing inspirations from artist Peter Thorpe, children will create high-contrast, colourful 'spacescapes' which we will display in our Pod.