



St. George's Church of England Primary School

Learning for Life

Headteacher – Mrs R Keitch

Brook Street, Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex. CO7 7HX

Telephone: (01206) 230305 Fax: (01206) 231437

Email: admin@st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk

Autumn (1) CLASS LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this half-term's class letter. This letter contains all the information you need to know about your child's learning for the coming half term, including how you can support your child's learning at home.



NAVIGATORS

'LEAD THE WAY!'

- Leaders
- Able to apply skills
- Overcomers
- Focused

DIMENSIONS LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD

This half term's first Dimensions topic unit is 'Mission Control', an exploration of the amazing features of our solar system and the wider universe. This unit includes a look at the science of space, but reaches far beyond scientific understanding. Navigators pupils will be analysing Holst's 'The Planets', and writing some planet music of their own; designing, building and launching their own rockets; acting out the parts of their favourite planets in dramatic performances; and learning how to understand the universe through the lens of Christian theology in R.E.

Any home conversations about any of the above would be highly beneficial in helping pupils develop their ideas and understanding.

MATHS

<u>What we're studying</u>	<u>Suggested home activities</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Numbers beyond 1,000,000* The four operations* Mental calculations and maths shortcuts* Multiples and factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Times table games* Discussing daily temperature changes including negative numbers* Adding items on shopping bills

ENGLISH

<u>What we're studying</u>	<u>Suggested home activities</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Philip Gross's 'Dark Sky Park' collection reading comprehension* Space poetry writing* Deep sea creature report writing* Extra-terrestrial creature description* Aurora borealis non-chronological report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Read books and watch documentaries about the subjects being studied* Observe and talk about the night sky and the constellations* Read the poems of 'Dark Sky Park', it's a cracking collection!

OTHER SUBJECTS

- * In science, the children will be learning about the planets of our solar system and the nature of space.
- * In music, children will be analysing Holst's 'The Planets' and composing music to elicit different emotions.
- * In DT, the task will be to design, build and launch a rocket propelled by vinegar and baking soda.
- * In drama, children will be performing scenes of their favourite planets arguing with each other.
- * In art, the object will be to paint a picture of space or planets in the style of the impressionists.
- * In history and R.E., we will be investigating conceptions of the universe in different eras, and learning about the way the universe is presented in Christian theology.
- * P.E. will be focused on multi-skills on Thursdays and football on Fridays.

HOME LEARNING ARRANGEMENTS

Each week there will be a Spellings Snakes list for the children to practise, and there will be a spellings test every Friday. Children will be required to complete an English or maths based home learning activity, and a topic based activity every other week. Orange home learning books must be placed in the blue trays each Wednesday, and gold coins will be awarded for effort.

Daily reading should be done at home, and reading logs should be updated. Log books should be placed in the blue trays by the end of each Wednesday.

The more reading children do at home the better for all areas of their academic development, so it's very much appreciated for parents to encourage reading at home.

PE/FOREST SCHOOL

P.E. lessons will take place on Thursday and Friday afternoons.
There will be no Forest Schools for Navigators in Autumn Term.

COMMUNICATION



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For quick, day-to-day classroom matters please contact me via Seesaw or in Navigators Class at the beginning/end of the day.

For queries, questions or concerns, please make an appointment to meet with me or have a phone call.

I will respond to your queries as soon as I am able to.

Warmest regards

Ralph Johnston

Navigators Class Teacher