

R.E.	This term the children will be learning about Judaism and the celebration of Passover. After half term the children will learn about Christianity and the Easter story.
PSHE Personal, social and health education	The children will have weekly PSHE lessons. They will learn about setting goals, persevering and celebrating success. After half term the children will learn about 'being healthy' from healthy food to understanding what being relaxed means and how it feels.
P.E.	The children will have P.E lessons on Monday mornings with our sports coach Mr Bailey. During the first half term they will explore different ways to travel and balance and will be designing their own travel circuits. After half term they will learn and practise the skills required to start to play football, netball, hockey and rugby. On a Friday afternoon the children will have a music and movement lesson. Please make sure your child has their PE kit at school on Mondays and Fridays.
Music	Singing, chanting and rhyming will be included in our daily lessons and the children will sing a range of songs during our morning worship celebrations. On a Friday afternoon we will listen to music and begin to create our own music with a range of percussion instruments.
ICT	PCs, ipads and the interactive whiteboard will be incorporated into the children's lessons to enhance and support their learning.
Design Technology/ Art and Design	The children will have regular opportunities to learn a range of artistic techniques and design skills eg. building rockets from junk modelling materials, making collages of 'hot' and 'cool' planets, designing and creating our own planets and making aliens from a variety of materials eg. paint, plasticine, clay. We would be very grateful if every child could please bring in a shoe box with a lid by Friday 26th January for an art and design project.



Thorncombe St. Mary's Church of England Primary School



Curriculum Information Spring Term 2018 "Exploring Space"

Pippin Class - Reception, Year 1 & 2 Class
Teachers: Mrs Gafney & Mrs Murray
Teaching Assistants: Mrs Welch & Mrs
Whatmore

Welcome back to school and the Spring term!

This term Pippin class's topic is 'Exploring Space'. We will be learning about many different aspects of space from what astronauts eat, to space travel and considering whether aliens really do exist! The direction of our learning journey will be guided by the children's interests and will cover elements of history, geography and science.

The children will benefit from a variety of different learning environments from an activity that is organised and led by an adult to independent learning time where an activity is decided upon and led by the child.

How to support your child at home:

Please try to listen to your child read **every evening** and record a comment in the home school reading diary.

For Year 2 children, "Weekly Words" will be sent home on Fridays and will be tested the following Wednesday.

From time to time Year 1 and 2 children will also be asked to complete a home learning task.

If you have any questions about these topics, or any areas of your children's learning, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Mrs Gafney and Mrs Murray

English	<p>This term we are focusing on narrative for several weeks. We have read <i>Whatever Next!</i> by Jill Murphy and over the next few weeks we will be focusing on <i>The Way Back Home</i> by Oliver Jeffers, a story about a boy who flies to the moon, meets a Martian and helps him to fix his spaceship. We have made up actions to accompany the story, and once the children are very familiar with the story pattern we will encourage them to make up their own new characters/story beginnings/endings. We are in the process of developing classroom areas including a book corner where children will have the opportunity to listen to audio books.</p> <p>The children have expressed an interest in learning about extra-terrestrial life, and so one of our key texts will be <i>Aliens Love Underpants</i> by Claire Freedman, an amusing rhyming story. We will also be reading a variety of Space-themed poems and making up collaborative and individual poetry.</p> <p>We will continue to focus on speaking and listening skills and would like to encourage your children to participate in regular show and tell sessions (details to be communicated shortly).</p>
Phonics	<p>The children will have daily phonics lessons where they will practise recognition and recall of graphemes (a grapheme is letter or a number of letters that represent a sound), reading and spelling as well as writing words and sentences. Children will start to learn cursive (joined up) handwriting. Year 2 children will learn, practise and apply spelling strategies.</p>
Maths	<p>This term we will continue to consolidate our place value knowledge and start to learn how to multiply and divide numbers. After half term the children will learn to measure length, height, mass, capacity and temperature. Children in Reception will continue to count, recognise numbers, match numerals to groups of objects and find one more and one less than numbers to twenty. They will also learn how to order items by length, height, weight or capacity. Learning about money and shape will be incorporated across the curriculum.</p>
Knowledge and Understanding of the World (Science, History, Geography)	<p>Science forms a big part of our Space topic. We are focusing on observing closely, noticing differences and similarities (Reception) and working scientifically to observe, investigate and suggest answers to questions (Year 1 and Year 2). Taking our lead from the children's interests, we will be learning about the moon, sun, planets and solar system as well as the daily life of astronauts. After half term we will be experimenting with conditions needed to grow plants both on Earth and in Space. In History we are learning about famous astronauts, including Neil Armstrong and Helen Sharman. In Geography we are learning about where planet Earth is in relation to the sun, moon and other planets, as well as where in the world food comes from.</p>