

Term 1 Newsletter (Tiger Class)



Dear Family Members,

Welcome back Somerdale families. Hopefully you all had a great break and found some time to relax. We've already been hearing about so many of the exciting adventures over the holidays.

This newsletter aims to provide you with an overview of the main learning planned for this term, alongside other useful information. If you have any questions, concerns or worries, do come and talk to me. I am available via e-mail, (info@somerdaleet.org.uk), or at the end of the school day.

The Year Five team:

Jim McLaughlin
Class Teacher
Monday - Friday

Sonia Skuse
Learning Support Worker
Monday – Wednesday

Lisa Garasto
Learning Support Worker
Thursday - Fridays

Enquiry Question this term: How did our universe form?

This term our enquiry question is all about the solar system, our universe and all manner of things space! We will be exploring our solar calendar describing the movement of the spherical bodies in our system, including our home planet. We will continue to develop our scientific approach and testing. In Geography we will identify human and physical characteristics across different landmarks. In History, we will explore the history of space travel and draw parallel timelines to our lives and famous events. In art we will use lithography to create Chesley Bonestell inspired Sci-Fi works using ink (and aprons... many aprons).

Learn Together

This Term teacher Sonia (Y4) will be covering our Learn Together Sessions around Buddhism and rituals whilst Jim covers her PE lessons.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these three rights:

Article 8: You have the right to an identity – an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you.

Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

English

Our focus book this term is *The man who walked between the towers*. A true story about a french street performer who broke into the world trade centre twin towers before their construction was completed to tightrope walk a quarter of a mile above New York. We will explore these historic towers, the city of New York and explore the legends of other street artists. Our main focus in writing will be on retelling Philippe Petit's amazing feat with a keen focus on setting description whilst we consolidate Year 4 learning and broach Year 5 skills.

We have introduced the statutory Year 5/6 spelling list and are already well underway teaching strategies for practice.

In guided reading sessions, children will continue to build comprehension and understanding. VIPERS are the skills we will be focussing on Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explain, Retrieval and Summarising. The majority of our reading sessions will be focused on 'The space we're in' by Katya Balen.

Maths

We will be covering place value alongside addition and subtraction. We will:

Place Value

Roman numerals to 1,000

Numbers to 10,000

Numbers to 100,000

Numbers to 1,000,000

Read and write numbers to 1,000,000

Powers of 10

10/100/1,000/10,000/100,000 more or less

Partition numbers to 1,000,000

Number line to 1,000,000

Compare and order numbers to 100,000

Compare and order numbers to 1,000,000

Round to the nearest 10, 100 or 1,000

Round within 100,000

Round within 1,000,000

Addition and Subtraction

Add whole numbers with more than four digits

Subtract whole numbers with more than four digits

Round to check answers

Inverse operations (addition and subtraction)

Multi-step addition and subtraction problems

Compare calculations

Find missing numbers

As scientists we will:

- Describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the Solar System.
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth.
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies.
- Explore the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

As geographers and historians we will:

- Children locate the world's countries, with the continuous use of maps, globes, and atlases to find geographical regions, human/physical characteristics and famous landmarks.
- Parallel timelines of our lives and famous events to see chronology.
- Placing taught events on timeline.
- History of space travel.

As designers, artists and creators we will:

- Experiment with wet or dry media to make different marks, lines, patterns, textures and shapes within a drawing.
- Use a sketchbook to collect and develop ideas.
- Create printing blocks using sketchbook ideas.
- Develop techniques i.e., mono-printing, block printing, relief/impressed method.

For PE:

- Mondays we will be covering Volleyball.
- Thursdays we will be exploring Basketball.

Children will continue to have music taught by professional musicians from Preludes on Fridays.

On Wednesdays our PPA cover teacher Jenna will be covering computing where the children will learn to:

- Children will further develop their understanding of how to SMART online.
- Children will be taught how to be responsible and respectful online including passwords, not sharing photos etc

Important Info for parents

The link below is for our class' Google Drive where you'll find a range of useful resources, photos and weekly timetables.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bkzGtptDk6P2IFUad0ZzsAH_A3ViF0fb?usp=sharing

PE Equipment

P.E days this year will be Mondays and Thursdays so children will need to come to school wearing clothing and footwear that is suitable to exercise in. Here is a list of things that would be suitable to wear on these days. We ask that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name and year group so that it does not get lost.

PE kit list

- Short sleeved free moving top
- Jumper (if weather appropriate)
- Shorts or leggings (no denim)
- Trainers suitable for running
- Hair tidied up
- No jewellery

Morning/Afternoon Routines

In the mornings and afternoons, when waiting for the doors to open/your child to come out, please wait on the playground by the Year Five classroom.

The door opens at 8.40am and closes at 8.50am. Within this ten minute window, children will be practising their handwriting, spellings, maths questions and completing marking challenges in their books before the register at 8.50am. Pick-up is at 3.10pm.

Please call the office or e-mail info@somerdaleet.org.uk before 2pm if there are any changes to pick-ups at home time.

Reading Records & books

Your child will come home with a reading record and book this week. All children should be aiming to read 4 times a week.

When your child reads at home, you can record this in their reading record. Please date each time your child reads at home, however you only need to leave a comment if needed. For example, if you find your child found a book or certain keywords tricky, found tricky or showed strength in answering questions or if they read fluently. Jim will check for comments once a week and reply to any if required.

Date	Book title and page number	Comments
6/9	Charlie and the chocolate factory	Found this a bit tricky, but answered a good few questions.
7/9		
8/9		
9/9		
10/9	Gansta Granny	

This year, Year 5 will be changing their reading for pleasure book on Mondays when the whole class will go to the library. This book is taken out in their name and the condition is recorded. Please make sure that all books lent out are returned within the following two weeks. The children will also have a book with a book band colour suitable to their reading level which they should bring in everyday to and from school.

We highly recommend children read the colour band books they take home a few times before changing it. This really helps them to build up fluency and understanding which leads to them making faster progress in their reading skills.

Family Helpers

If you, or a family member (such as grandparent) have a few hours to spare regularly each week and you would like to help us out then that would be really appreciated!

We would love some adults who can help with:

- listening to children read across the year groups
- developing our reading resource packs

Or perhaps you have another skill you think would be useful? If you are interested then please fill in the online form via the link below: <https://forms.gle/HcSTVaKetKyasohZ7>

Volunteers will need to have a DBS check completed for safeguarding reasons. Amy and Rachel in the office will organise this and there is no cost. Once you've indicated your interest, Sam will get back to you. ☺

A couple of requests...

- Please talk to your child before school each morning about lunch choices, so that they know which option they will choose when they come to school.
- Please bring a named water bottle into school – filled with plain water only.
- Please name all clothes! Last year we had lots of unnamed lost clothes, please label them, and check periodically that the name is still visible.

- This year your child needs to bring their bookbag into school every day. Inside their bookbag should be their reading record, spelling journal and reading books.