

## Year 1 Newsletter – Issue 6

### TOPIC

This half-term our topic is called 'Fly me to the moon'. During this topic we will be learning about a variety of things.

**LAUNCH EVENT** the children had a fantastic time when the space dome came to school. They were full of awe and wonder and have been heard talking very enthusiastically to others about it afterwards. We were shown how some of the stars were joined up like dot to dots in ancient times and given names like 'little bear' and 'Orion'. We looked at some of the planets and compared the size of them to each other. We discovered the sun was much larger than any of the planets! Hopefully your child has shared some of the interesting facts and stories they found out with you!

**As historians** - we will be finding out about significant historical people and events both internationally and linked to our local area. These will include: Neil Armstrong and the moon landing as well as local astronaut Tim Peake.

**As designers** - we will be designing, making and evaluating a rocket. Thank you to all of the parents who have contributed empty kitchen rolls and wrapping paper tubes for this. We hope to have an end of term class rocket launch as part of this learning.

**As artists** - we will be looking at different planets and creating our own representations of some of them using a variety of media. We will share our art with each class as part of our end of topic celebration.

**As musicians** - on the afternoon of Wednesday 21st February, children from classes 4 and 5 will be taking part in Portsmouth Music Service's Infant Voices festival. Please keep an eye on your child's book bag for a song books with the lyrics for your child to practice. Class 6 will be practising their music skills through other exciting classroom events.

**In computing** - we will continue learning how to use the web-based resource 'Purplemash'. We will frequently recap our learning about keeping safe online. We will also learn how data can be entered, saved and retrieved.

**In RE** - our focus for this half-term will be 'Remembering'.

### **Home Reading**

We would like to thank all parents for the support they gave their child during the Year 1 reading challenge last term. It has had such a huge impact on childrens' reading confidence and ability to read more challenging books. Just because the challenge is over please don't stop reading! The children are so enthusiastic at what they have achieved and it would be great to continue the massive improvement in the number of children reading at home for the rest of this year.

### **Spring A - Home Learning Challenge**

During the Space Dome visit some of the children were challenged by the presenter to find out more about a planet in our solar system. Therefore, our half-term optional home learning task is to choose one planet and find out about it and create something to teach others in the class about it. This might take the form of a model, poster, piece of writing, art. It is completely up to you! We look forward to seeing

your creations. Can we ask that any work is handed in during the last week of term (week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> February) so that we can include it in our end of topic celebrations.

### **Year 1 Visits**

All parents received a letter in November detailing the visits planned for year one in 2018. The total cost of these visits is £15. Please could we have the **remaining balance of £10 by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. Please contact the office to set up a payment plan if you will have difficulty contributing the full amount by this date.

### **Lacey Library**

The anticipated date of the next visit for each class is detailed below.

Class 4 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

Class 5 – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Class 6 – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018