



**PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER  
Friday 24th February 2023**

**Curriculum topics – Spring term 2**

Reception- Space



We start Spring 2 with a BANG! This term we will be launching into Space with our new topic Across the Universe. We have an exciting start with visiting a space dome and learning about what is in space. Within this topic we will explore the different features in space from the planets to stars constellations. We will also learn about the famous astronauts who visited space and what they discovered. We will be focusing on two excellent books Sunshine at Bedtime and Aliens love Underpants to help understand the concept around space and how features of space influence life on planet Earth.

Year 1- Poles Apart



Year 1 are beginning our first geography topic where we are diving into the Polar Regions. We will begin by exploring what these are and how they differ both between each other and also us in the UK. We will be looking at both the human and physical features like weather, animals and glaciers that are in this unique destination. One of the most exciting parts of this topic will be adopting our own penguin from these regions and having updates on how this beautiful animal is getting on in their habitat. Once we have a good understanding of the geography of this place, we will move into to completing some collaging artwork of the landscape. We will be exploring

different artists who do collaging so well and recreate some of there work! To finish off, we will then move onto working with some textiles and have a go at making some finger puppet animals from this region! It is going to be brrrrrilliant!



Year  
] This



end  
completing our class assembly to share all of our incredible knowledge with our grown-ups!

## 2- Blue Planet

term, Year 2 will be introducing the topic Blue Planet with a focus on plastic pollution and the impact it has on our environment and the animals (in particular the ocean). We will also explore the properties of plastic, uses of plastic, good/bad choices when using plastic and how we can use plastic more effectively to help the environment. We hope this will highlight the importance of looking after our planet and being aware of the impact some choices can have resulting in an encouragement for the children to make positive choices with plastic. The topic will involve lots of investigating, practical activities to help in our local environment, debating and newspaper writing. Amazingly, at the

of this term, we will be



## Year 3- Mother Earth



This term, year 3 will be exploring the amazing phenomena of Mother Earth. Year 3 will build a knowledge around the structure of the Earth and how natural disasters can occur. We will be looking at how earthquakes and tsunamis are formed and how they are measured. We also study the effects of earthquakes in different areas of the world, due to their economic status. We look at why some countries are less affected due to protections they have in place, compared to poorer countries that suffer from destruction of buildings and farming. Year 3 will also discuss how volcanoes are formed and why they only occur in certain areas of the world. We will also observe the structure of a volcano and the effects they have on the world if they erupt. Year 3 will learn how to monitor volcanoes and how scientists can identify patterns of volcanic activity. Finally, year 3 will be able to read a map to recognise contours of a volcano and identify areas on a map where natural disasters occur.

## Year 4- Metropolis

This term in Year 4 we are beginning our new topic 'Metropolis'. This is a really exciting topic for you Year 4 children to be delving into as they will have the opportunity to explore various towns and cities from across the globe, including our very own Northampton! They will develop an understanding of population, size and land use in



cities like London and Moscow, in addition to learning about the key landmarks within those areas. We also have exciting opportunities to

explore cityscapes within our artwork as well. The children in Year 4 will





hone their skills in mapwork and the use of technologies such as Google Earth to assist them in and comparing the various cities across the world which they will study.

locating

### Year 5- South America



This term Year 5 will be travelling to South America! This topic will delve into the beauty of South America's climate, mountain range and beautiful rainforests, so prepare to be wowed! This topic will allow the children to get creative with their acting skills as they have an opportunity to learn about the Incan Empire, the most well-known indigenous culture of South America, learning the roles of characters to



experience what life would life was like. In addition, this topic will take the children on a virtual rainforest tour, even introducing them to new animals, plants they may have never seen before. This is going a very creative topic we all eager to be stuck in!

learn well-roles and

### Year 6- Renewable Energy



This half-term is going to be another exciting one in Year 6, as we are taking on the role of eco-warriors in our new topic all about renewable energy. We are going to be learning all about what energy is, and how during the industrial revolution we began using fossil fuels as a source of energy. We will explore the downsides of fossil fuels and their lack of sustainability, and study lots of exciting renewable methods for harnessing energy. After exploring some well-known forms, such as solar power and wind power, we will be learning about hydropower, biomass and geothermal energy. From here, we will be moving on to study the need to develop new technologies that do not require the use of fossil fuels, with a

focus on electric cars and the benefits they can provide to the environment.

### **Silhouette Youth Theatre**

A group of very talented Year 5 children recently took part in a fantatsic perfoamcne at the royal Dernaget Theatre with the Silhouette Youth Theatre.

Click the link below for more information on this amazing Theatre group!

<https://forms.office.com/e/HN0nxgJzYR>

**Key dates**

Monday 27th February - 5pm - Year 6 SATS parents information evening  
Tuesday 28th February - Year 4 trip to Snow zone  
Tuesday 28th February 5pm - Year 2 SATS parents information evening  
Thursday 2nd March - World book day  
Friday 3rd March - No Friday readers  
Monday 6th March – 5pm - Year 1 phonics parents information evening  
Tuesday 7th March – 5pm - Year 4 multiplication parents information evening  
Tuesday 14th March - parents evening –  
Thursday 16th March - parents evening  
Friday 17th March - 2:30pm mothers afternoon tea  
Thursday 30th March - Year 2 class assembly PM  
Thursday 30th March - reports go out to parents  
Friday 31st March – No Friday readers – last day of term

**Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!**