Out Of This World – Hawk Class – Autumn 2 2026



Greeting space scientists, I hope you all had a wonderful half term. This half term is always extremely busy, but it is also one of my favourites- I love Christmas in school and also because this half term's topic truly is Out Of This World! We will be studying space this half term: looking at the planets within our Solar System; looking at the moon and the phases it goes through each month (and why this is); and looking at the stars and the constellations. It was great to see so many of you at parents evening last half term and please feel free to come and talk to me again should you have any questions about your child's learning
Kind regards
Zara Noyce

English

We will be looking at the fantastic book *Curiosity: The Story of the Mars Rover* by Markus Motum and designing our own rover to send to Mars that we will then be writing about and explaining how it works.

Reading every day and developing a love for the subject is vital to success across so many different areas of the curriculum. Please ensure that your child reads every night and that they have their book in school every day. To assist the work that we will be doing in school, when your child reads to you please ask them some comprehension questions about what they have read.

- **Summarise what has happened in the book so far.**
- **Why is a character behaving in a particular way, what might this tell us about their character?**
- **What do you think might happen next?**
- **What does this word mean in the context of the story?**

Maths

In maths we will be using our multiplication knowledge a lot this half term. Fractions and multiplication are so tightly linked together and we will be focussing on both of these strands this half term by:

- Finding equivalent fractions
- Converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers
- Ordering and comparing fractions with different denominators
- Adding fractions with different denominators
- Subtracting fractions with different denominators

As I have said above, multiplication knowledge is vital for everything that we are doing this half term and makes the learning so much easier. Please ensure that your child continues to practise their times tables regularly to build speed and fluency, encouraging them to go on Times Tables Rock Stars as much as possible is a great way to do this.

PE

This half term we will be focussing on gymnastics. Our PE days are Mondays and Tuesday, but with Christmas performance rehearsals etc. this may well change, **please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day and that it contains their full PE kit- white shirt, black shorts (they will need shorts not trousers for gymnastics) and suitable shoes for running outdoors)**. Long hair should be tied up and earrings taken out (or covered with micropore tape).

Science

Our topic this half term has a real science focus as we look at our Solar System. Have a look at the link for an overview of what we will be studying, it may also help with some of the homework tasks:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkbbkqt