

Rainbow, Sunshine and Moonbeam Newsletter Autumn 2

Welcome to the Autumn 2 newsletter. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing half term break. This half term we will be exploring different celebrations including Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas.



Space



Our topic for Autumn 2 is Space! We will be learning about the planets in our Solar System including singing a song called The Solar System which can be found on Youtube if you would like to practise it at home. We will also be learning about famous astronauts (Neil Armstrong and Mae Jemison) and how changes in technology have affected rockets and astronaut's suits throughout the years.

Key words

- Space, astronaut, space rocket, launch, alien
- Planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune
- Stars, the sun
- Non-fiction/ fiction

Books to read at home

- Look up
- The Smeds and The Smoos
- The Way Back Home
- Whatever Next
- Aliens Love Underpants
- Non-fiction books about space

Ideas to try at home

- Research a planet of your child's choice and write 2 interesting facts about it.
- Get messy making planets using a balloon, some newspaper and glue. Talk about the changes that happen with the ingredients as you mix them and they dry.

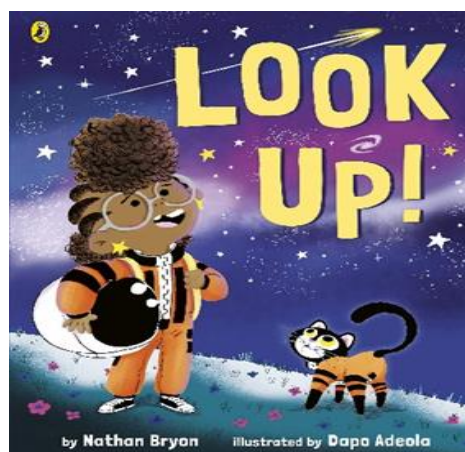
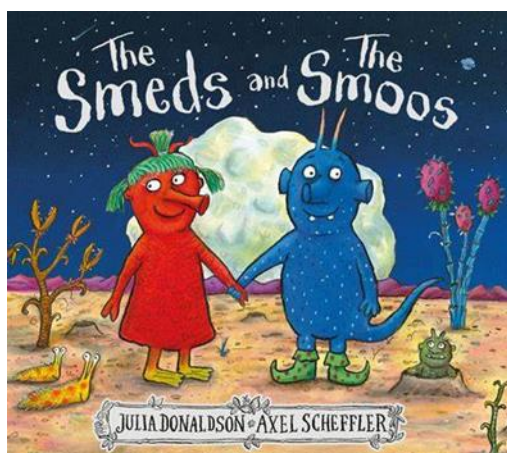
<http://www.instructables.com/id/Papier-Mache-Planets/>

- Build a rocket out of junk materials.



Literacy

In literacy we will be reading *The Smeds and The Smoos*. Our activities will include writing invitations, designing posters and creating our own facts.



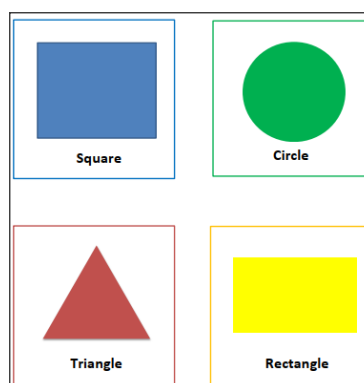
Maths

This half-term in maths we will be exploring the composition of numbers up to 5. We will explore finding different representations of 1,2,3,4,5 and children will be encouraged to use counting principles such as touching an object as they count to support one-to-one correspondence. We will be sharing stories and pictures which show numbers up to 5. The children will be given practical opportunities to explore a range of ways to partition a whole number into two parts and to find different ways, for example, 4 can be composed of 2 and 2 or 3 and 1.

We will be looking at 2D flat shapes like circles, triangles, squares and rectangles. The children will be finding and comparing these shapes using the language like 'sides', 'straight' and 'corners.'

Please attend the reception maths workshop to find out more. Here are some ideas to support your child at home:

- Look for 2D flat shapes in the environment.
- Sing songs and say rhymes with numbers up to 5. E.g. 5 currant buns, 12345 once I caught a fish alive, 5 little ducks.
- Explore composition by making numbers 1 - 5 with two different natural materials (feathers, stones, sticks etc).



Phonics

In Phonics this half term some of us will be revisiting and recapping the sound below:

s a t p i n m d

Tricky words - I is the to a into

Once the children have learnt these sounds then they will be moving onto the next set:

g o c k e u r h b f/ff l/l j v w x y z/zz qu ss

Tricky words - of no go as

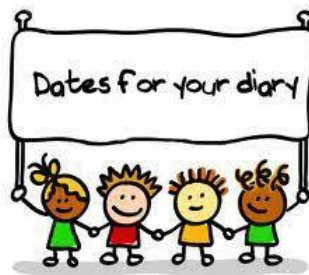


As the weather is becoming colder and wetter, please provide your child with a waterproof jacket with their name in it. Your child may need hat, gloves and scarf with their names clearly written on the label.

Every **Wednesday** afternoon we will be going to the nature garden so please make sure your child has appropriate clothing.

Reading

Reading bags (the ziplock wallets that were sent home), your child's current reading book, and their reading diary, should all be brought into school every day.



16th November - Reception Maths workshop

Tuesday 12th December 10 am - Festive performance

Thursday 14th December 1pm - Festive performance

Tuesday 19th December - class parties

Wednesday 20th December - Last day of term, **2pm finish**