



During this term, our theme is:
What role does the Earth play in our solar system?

Below are the areas that we are covering within the theme.



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	We will be reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes and completing lots of work around this book such as letter writing, drama activities, writing clear instructions and writing our own stories. We will also be doing some work around the history of space travel and exploration. During poetry work we will also be looking at descriptive writing and the use of figurative language; this will include building poetry into our learning outdoors curriculum work. In reading sessions this term the children will be focussing on the use of vocabulary and why the author has chosen to use the words they have.	Whenever you get the opportunity, see what your child is reading, maybe read with them. It doesn't matter what it is as long as they are enjoying it and learning from it! Discuss the characters in the book your child is reading, do they like them? Why or why not? Can they identify the personality traits that the author has used that have given them that opinion? If your child is a keen writer, maybe they could create a story and then they could read it to you, a sibling or other family member. For homework, spellings will be sent home weekly and regular reading at home is expected.
Maths	We will be focusing largely on number and place value. We will be reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers to at least 1000000 and learning the place value of each digit. We will then be rounding any number to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10000 and 100000, amongst other skills relating to numbers up to one million. We will also be focusing on arithmetic so we can practise addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.	Have a look online as there are lots of maths puzzles and games to explore and enjoy! Have a discussion about number on a regular basis – test your child's rapid recall on their times-tables and related number facts – it is really important for Year 5 that they know these and are comfortable with all of their times tables so get practising! In terms of Maths homework, the expectation is that children are regularly accessing timetable rock stars.
Science	We are learning about the Earth and Space. We will be learning about the planets in our solar system, why we have day and night, why we have seasons and also the phases of the moon. We will also be looking at other objects in space such as asteroids, comets and the Aurora Borealis. We will also be learning about Margaret Hamilton, who is a significant figure in the history of space exploration. We will be taking our learning outdoors by exploring where would be the best place in the school grounds to install wind turbines.	Watch a Sci-fi film (like ET or Star Wars) or maybe even Dr Who. Discuss with your child what science fiction is! Look at books that have information in them about earth and space – discuss what you find or bring your findings into school. You could also use a smart phone or tablet to download Google sky maps and do some digital star-gazing together! A further project that you could choose to create would be to create either a model space rocket, model planet or a model of the solar system.
Geography	We will be learning all about sustainability in geography to answer the question Is there Enough for Everyone? The children will be thinking about the needs of a settlement, and the needs of the planet as a whole. They will find out where resources such as power and food come from, and look at ways in which natural resources can be conserved. After discussing the idea of a carbon footprint, children will have the chance to consider how their actions impact on others around the world, and to think about the changes that they could make. We will also look at the work of Gerald Durrell, a significant person in this topic and a well-known English conservationist.	Discuss this very important topic with your children at home. Is there anything you do at home to help the planet, such as recycling, taking showers instead of baths, turning lights off when you are not in the room and not throwing food away needlessly? Encourage your child to research this and help them to create a poster or piece of work on sustainability and its importance.
Computing	This half term we will be designing and developing our own games. We will begin by planning a game and then creating a prototype to test. Once we have tried them out we will be debugging them and re-testing. We will be creating two different types of fully working games.	Use computers or tablets at home to research Space to then create a poster or a PowerPoint presentation which we will then share with the rest of the class. Any work done at home will be celebrated in school. Discuss how to stay safe online with your children.

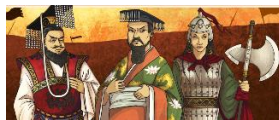
Religious Education	We will be looking at one of the world's major religions – Islam. We will be finding out about the Qur'an and why it is important to Muslims, reading passages from the Qur'an and learning how Muslims use it today. We will also be virtually exploring a mosque and learning more about this place of worship.	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Physical Education	To start with, we will be learning and applying the skills needed to play a team game. We will be learning to successfully play tag rugby, building up the skills needed to play a 5 v 5 match. After this, we will be building our gymnastics skills, with a focus on balances and small group work.	Can you practise any new skills at home in your spare time? Could you create a new ball game or teach someone at home the rules for tag rugby? As well as this, you may want to create your own gymnastics routine based upon balances.
Art	We will be working on a whole school art project. This project is based upon the picture book, "The rules of Summer," by Shaun Tan. Our work will be based upon buildings and will focus on developing both our sketching and painting skills to work towards a finished piece, which will then be displayed in school as part of a 'school art gallery'. We are very excited for this project and are sure that the children will be inspired.	Look at artwork featuring buildings (such as the art of Lowry and other Shaun Tan art) and discuss the colours and textures. Children could practise putting the sketching skills they develop in school in art at home. Children may also wish to look into other work by Shaun Tan and compare it to the work in 'The rules of Summer.' Please bring in any art work completed at home as we would love to see it!
French	We will be learning how to express our emotions and to talk about the future, using two different tenses. The children will also be thinking about the future and learning how to say what they want to do when they grow up.	Practise using the French vocabulary learnt in school at home. Can you teach anyone any new French words or phrases?
Music	Our work in music this half term is focused around one song: Livin' On A Prayer. Our work will see games, elements of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen to and discuss other classic songs.	Have fun listening to music at home! Can you challenge your child to listen to different types of music? Discuss the music with your child. What images does it conjure up in their heads and how does it make them feel? Have a go at making some musical instruments out of junk and play them along to your favourite songs!
Relationships Education	First, we will be doing lots of work around integrating the children back into school and reconnecting as a class. After this, we will be looking at health and wellbeing in more detail. We will look at what is meant by a healthy lifestyle, how we can look after our own wellbeing, managing risks, keeping safe and managing changes in our lives.	Discuss our topics at home together. Look at how we can keep safe when out of the house, how our diets are good for our lifestyle and what we already do to keep healthy. You can also look at what makes you feel happy and create a presentation around this.

Class Teachers: Mr Curtis and Mr Harker

Year: 5

Head teacher: J. Beach

Term: Autumn 1



During this term, our theme is:

What was the Shang Dynasty?

Below are the areas that we are covering within the theme.



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	As part of our English work this half term, we will be reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and completing lots of work around this book, such as writing a ship's log, a message in a bottle and a news report. We will also be doing some work around the history of the Shang Dynasty. During poetry work we will continue to look at descriptive writing and the use of figurative language. In reading sessions this term the children will be focussing on the use of vocabulary and the corresponding definitions, and why the author has chosen to use the words they have.	Whenever you get the opportunity, see what your child is reading. It doesn't matter what it is as long as they are enjoying it and learning from it! Discuss the characters in the book your child is reading; do they like them? Why or why not? Can they identify the personality traits that the author has used that have given them that opinion? If your child is a keen writer, maybe they could create a story and then they could read it to you, a sibling or other family member – this makes for great practise of all our English work!
Maths	This half term we will be focusing on Multiplication and Division; including Multiples, Factors, Common Factors and Prime Numbers. We will also be learning about Fractions (including equivalents and alternative representations) and Statistics, where we will complete, read and interpret information from tables and timetables. We will also be focusing on arithmetic so we can practise our basic skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, which will underpin our main mathematical concepts this term.	Have a look online as there are lots of maths puzzles and games to explore and enjoy! Have a discussion about number on a regular basis – test your child's rapid recall on their times-tables and related number facts as it is really important for Year 5 that they know these and are comfortable with all of their times tables. Remind your child that they can log on to Times Table Rockstars at home and, if they are up for the personal challenge, compete against Mr Harker or Mr. Curtis head to head!
Science	This half term we are learning about what the properties of materials are and how these can change, and will also become CSI forensic investigators for a day! During this exciting day, we will create a new substance, use chromatography and study fingerprints! After this, we will conduct many chemistry based experiments over the remainder of the unit, primarily focusing around the changing states of materials.	Look at items around the household. Make a list of the different items you can find and what they are made out of. Think about why they are made out of these materials. Why are radiators made out of metal? For example. Create the ultimate winter outfit, based upon the properties of materials you could use to make it. Persuade us that your winter outfit would be extremely well suited to the purpose.
History	We will be learning all about the Shang Dynasty, where children will learn all they need to know to answer our main topic question – 'What was the Shang Dynasty?' The children will be learning and thinking about where and when the Shang Dynasty took place, what it was like to live in the Shang Dynasty and about the religious beliefs of the Shang Dynasty.	Discuss this topic with your children at home. Can your child complete independent research about the Shang Dynasty and bring their findings into school to share with their teachers and peers? Encourage your child to complete this research and encourage them to create a booklet or piece of work on the Shang Dynasty and its importance in history.
Computing	We will be looking at online safety this term. We will be covering how to keep our information safe as well as what to do with unfamiliar emails and accounts that are sent to ourselves. The children will also be looking at how photos can be edited online and how everything we see online is not always true; we will discuss how this can make us feel.	Encourage conversations about online safety with the children – show them how you get rid of any spam emails and how you spot them. Share your views on editing photographs online and how you know that not everything online is true.

Religious Education	We will be looking at the themes of Christmas and what exactly they are. This Christianity unit will teach the children about the true meaning of Christmas for Christians. The children will work creatively to enhance their learning experience. They will start by questioning the meaning of Christmas to them and then learn about the Christian meaning of Christmas. The children will question if the true meaning of Christmas is still present today and question if the meaning has changed for some.	Encourage conversations at home about this timely subject. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Physical Education	We will be learning about health related exercises this half term. This will include a range of exercises that can be practised at home and at break times, to help us build our stamina, strength, flexibility and speed. We will get baseline scores in a range of activities – we aim to absolutely beat these scores when we redo the activities at the end of the unit!	Ask your children to practise the exercises they have learnt at home – they could even teach you how to do them! As well as this, they could watch some fitness videos on Youtube (such as the PE with Joe videos by Joe Wicks) to further build their skills.
Art	This half term we will be using clay to model sculptures of artefacts from the Shang Dynasty – including Oracle Bones.	You could research artefacts and view pictures of the Oracle bones from the Shang Dynasty and practice your modelling techniques using play dough or plastercine. No play dough at home? Use this link for a recipe which is easy and cheap to make at home: http://allrecipes.co.uk/recipe/50/play-dough.aspx
French	We will be learning how to discuss and describe ourselves in French. Talking about ourselves can be a hard skill to master though this can be made more fun by doing it in French. The children will practise their French vocabulary through conversations with each other.	Practise using the French vocabulary learnt in school at home or with friends. Can you teach anyone any new French words or impress them with any phrases you have learned?
Relationships Education	This half term the children will continue with Northwood's Recovery Curriculum, the curriculum aims to support children's social and emotional wellbeing in school following the Covid 19 pandemic. This half term's lenses are the 5CS – collaboration, communication, care, community and connection. Each week, the children will engage in short activities to develop their social and emotional skills in each of the 5 areas. We will also look at our health and wellbeing in more detail. We will explore what is meant by a healthy lifestyle, how we can look after our own wellbeing, managing risks, keeping safe and managing changes in our lives.	Discuss our topics at home together. Look at how we can keep safe when out of the house, how our diets are good for our lifestyle and what we already do to keep healthy. You can also look at what makes you feel happy and create a presentation around this.
Music	Music learning this half term is focused around one song: Make You Feel My Love. We will develop our skills in multiple areas, such as when using pulse, rhythm and pitch. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen to and discuss other Pop Ballads.	Listen to a range of music at home and discuss it together. What do they like and dislike? What kind of emotions does the music make them feel? They could then make a list of their top ten songs, including their reasons for why they enjoy them.

Class Teachers: Mr Curtis and Mr Harker Year: 5

Head teacher: J. Beach

Term: Autumn 2