



# Petersfield Church of England School

## Curriculum Information

*Yew Class, Spring Term 2018*



### English

We will begin the term looking at the genre of Science Fiction and other types of writing inspired by space. We will write our own short stories and explanation texts. We will also be developing language skills through our oracy project. This will include improving vocabulary use and sentence structure through discussion and making formal presentations. We will be reading a range of poetry, focusing on the author's choice of language and we will continue to practise and revise the use of a range of spelling, grammar and punctuation rules and work on incorporating these into our writing.

### Science

This term we will studying:

- Earth and Space

We will be developing scientific enquiry, modelling the solar system and exploring how it works. We will investigate the impact of the sun spinning on its axis and the lunar month.

- Forces

We will be studying, through scientific investigation and evidence, gravity and resistance in air and water, levers, pulleys and gears and friction.

### Mathematics

This term we will be concentrating on the following areas of Maths:

- Calculating with decimals and percentages
- Understanding algebra
- Solving problems involving converting between units of time
- Area and volume
- Ratio and proportion

We will also begin revising topics in preparation for the STAs tests in May.

### RE

This term we will exploring these key questions:

- What can we learn from reflecting on Christian, Sikh and Muslim Wisdom?
- What happens when we die?



### Geography

Through studying the South West region of the USA, the children will extend their knowledge and understanding of:

- map work;
- desert biomes, their landscape features and the processes that form them;
- the causes and consequences of earthquakes;
- why water is a precious resource and how it can be managed;
- the events and results of the Gold Rush;
- how our region compares and contrasts with other parts of the world.

### Other subjects

**Art:** Using the desert and space as inspiration for exploring printing techniques.

**DT:** Design and make a controllable, battery-powered toy vehicle

**Music:** Preparing for the Young Voices concert at the O2; composing and performing music inspired by space.

**PE:** Gymnastics: Body symmetry

**PSHCE:** Mental health and well-being; financial capability.

**Computing:** Exploring the functions and uses of spreadsheets; Lego – Moonbase.



## Yew Class Homework Menu

Yet again, the Autumn Term Homework Project resulted in an incredibly high standard of homework. Both in the assembly and in individual presentations, teachers and pupils learnt so much from each other. This term, we continue to set project homework alongside the maths or English homework set each week. This menu details a range of fun activities that can be completed at home to extend your child's learning. Please help your child to choose and complete a selection of these activities. To fit in with your family life, they can be completed after school, at weekends or as a half term project. If you would like further suggestions, please feel free to select from the homework menus of other classes which are all available on the school website. Children will be asked to share at least one of the activities with us in school. The deadline for this homework is the **22<sup>nd</sup> March** and we ask that the homework is not brought in to class until after half term. The sharing assembly will be on the **23<sup>rd</sup> March** – we do hope you can join us. Please do complete the feedback form in the Learning Link before the work is sent in. Staff will then provide written feedback after the sharing assembly. We very much look forward to seeing and hearing and learning from the homework produced this term!



### English

- Research earthquakes and choose one particular one to write a newspaper report about. You should try to include facts and human interest elements.
- Write a diary for an astronaut on a solo mission in to deep space.
- Look for poems about either deserts, space or another theme and make an anthology (collection) of the poems you like the best. Remember to include the title and author of each poem.

### Suggested Reading List

Any information, explanation or history texts on or about outer space, the South West USA, the Gold Rush, earthquakes or deserts.

Any Science Fiction work suitable for our age range. A list of suggested titles will be coming home soon, but there are many, many more! If you really fancy a challenge, try something by HG Wells or Jules Verne.

### Science

Try some of these space related experiments:

- <http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/AtHomeAstronomy/>
- <http://stem-works.com/subjects/12-space/activities>

Or how about making your own earthquake? This is one example you could try:

- <https://sciencing.com/make-earthquake-model-kids-5347246.html>

*A region of North America:*

## *The South West USA*

### History & Geography

- Create a diorama (3D model) of a desert in a shoe box. Label all the features, plants etc that you include.
- Record the weather every day for at least two weeks. Present the data you record in a suitable way.
- Draw up a travel itinerary with maps and photos for a two week tour of the South West USA. Make sure you visit all the major sites.

### Mathematics

- Make a database of information about each of the planets in our solar system including size, distance from the sun, length of orbit etc.

### Art & DT

- Research how astronauts eat in space and design and/or make a packaged balanced meal that can be eaten in zero gravity.
- Make a 3D model of the solar system.
- Go out on a clear night and create a piece of art inspired by the stars.

### Possible Family Trips & Visits

- Cambridge Botanic Gardens (the glass houses to see how plants adapt to arid conditions)
- The London Planetarium
- The Science Museum
- Whipple Museum of the History of Science, Cambridge (their collections on astronomy and a permanent exhibition on globes).