Autumn 2

Week Commencing 23/11





Please make sure your child is bringing in their reading diaries daily. If you have any stories around the theme of Space or stars please send in for us to share during story time.
This week's Makaton sign is 'star'

Nursery Rhyme week: 5 Little Men in a flying saucer



This week, we will be exploring a range of wonderful books linked to our topic of **space**. Each day, we will share some of our favourite stories, including *Meet the Planets* and *How to Catch a Star*.

We would love for you to share any space-themed books you have at home with your children, or any other stories and texts that link to our topic. Talking about the stories together and sharing new vocabulary is a lovely way to support your child's learning at home.

Drawing Club – *How to Catch a Star*

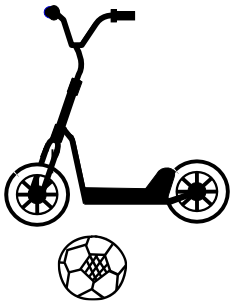
This week, we will be using the wonderful story *How to Catch a Star* as the inspiration for our **Drawing Club**. Drawing Club immerses the children in the world of a story through exciting vocabulary, imagination and drawing. We will explore a treasure trove of words linked to the story, including **solitary, luminous, adventurous, rapid, grouchy** and **reflection**. The children will then use their imagination to create their own drawings, developing their ideas and

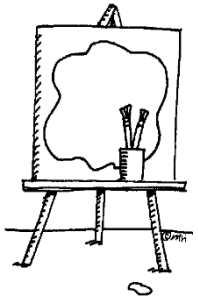


This week, we will be **diving deep into the fascinating world of space** as we explore a range of topics linked to our solar system.

Throughout the week, the children will be learning about:

- **Meet the Planets** – We will discover how many planets there are in our solar system, learn their names and explore what they look like.
- **Star Constellations** – We will investigate constellations and discover the different shapes and patterns they can make in the night sky.
- **The Moon** – We will explore how and why the Moon appears to shine by carrying out an exciting light experiment.
- **Moon Craters** – We will investigate how craters are formed on the surface of the Moon through a fun, hands-on investigation.

	using their new vocabulary to bring their pictures and stories to life. We are looking forward to seeing where their imaginations take them! 🚀 ★		Throughout our learning, we will also be introducing and exploring new vocabulary, including **gravity, craters, reflects** and **constellations**. We will encourage the children to use these new words when talking about their learning and explaining their ideas. We are looking forward to an exciting week of **exploring, investigating and discovering the wonders of space!** 🚀 🌜 ★
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	In Maths this week, we will be focusing on **numbers and exploring the concept of 'part' and 'whole'**. A **part/ part-whole model** is a pictorial representation that helps children understand how a whole number can be made up of different parts. We will explore this concept through a range of practical, hands-on activities. The children will be: • **Sharing 5 pebbles** between different pots and investigating the different ways the 5 pebbles can be shared. We will encourage the children to predict how many might be in each pot before checking their answers. • **Exploring numbers through a 'Yes or No' game**. Five children will answer questions and choose which hoop to stand in depending on their answer. We will then count how many children are in each hoop and see how the two groups combine to make 5. • **Investigating Numicon** and exploring which shapes can be put together to make the number 5. This will help the children to recognise that numbers can be made in different ways. Throughout our learning, we will encourage the children to **talk about their thinking, make predictions and explain how**		Our outdoor learning this week will continue with our **space theme**, giving the children plenty of opportunities to explore, create and use their imaginations. The children will be encouraged to use a variety of **construction materials** to design and build their own space rockets. They will have the opportunity to work together, experiment with different materials and think about how they can make their rockets stand strong and tall. We will also be transforming our **tyres into a solar system**, encouraging the children to become space explorers as they travel around the planets. This will provide opportunities for imaginative play, movement and teamwork. As always, we will continue to develop the children's **gross motor skills** through a range of physical activities in our outdoor area. These will include **rolling tyres, sweeping leaves and transporting water using a variety of containers**. We look forward to seeing the children's creativity and imagination take off as they explore the great outdoors! 🚀 🌍 ★

	they know, helping to build their mathematical understanding and confidence. 		
	We will be exploring the **colours and patterns found in space** and thinking about how we can represent what we see through art. The children will investigate the different colours found on the planets and experiment with creating their own **planet artwork using circles**, exploring colour mixing and different ways of applying paint. We will also be creating our own **name rockets**! The children will use cutting and sticking skills to create their rockets from different shapes, while practising **sounding out and recognising the letters in their names** to add to their designs. Linking our learning to stars, we will explore **Vincent van Gogh's famous painting *The Starry Night***. We will look closely at the swirling patterns in the painting and experiment with creating our own night skies using **swirls, printing and different artistic techniques**. We are looking forward to seeing the children's creativity shine as they create their own space-inspired masterpieces!		This week, we will be working with our **talk partners** to develop our **listening and turn-taking skills**. We will be reading a variety of stories that explore different scenarios and help us to think about how we can manage different situations. Together, we will discuss different strategies we can use to help us, such as those explored in *Ravi's Roar*. We will encourage the children to share their ideas, listen carefully to others and talk about how characters might be feeling. **Christmas Play** We will also be starting our **Christmas play rehearsals**! The children will be practising their **lines, dance moves and songs** as we prepare for our special performance. We will practise both in our smaller groups and as a whole year group. Through our rehearsals, we will be developing important skills such as **patience, confidence, listening and teamwork**. The children will learn how to wait for their turn, remember when it is time to join in and, most importantly, how to support and encourage one another. We are so excited to see the children's confidence grow as we work together towards our Christmas performance!

Question of the week: What is in space?
Tapestry Challenge:
How you can help at home:
Learning at Home

There are lots of ways you can support your child's learning at home this week:

- 🚀 **Talk about space** – Ask your child what they already know about space and see if they can tell you about the planets, stars or Moon.
- 🔢 **Practise numbers** – See if your child can spot and recognise different numbers when you are out and about or around the house. You could also ask them about **one more and one less** to develop their understanding of numbers.
- 💬 **Talk about their day** – Ask your child about their school day and what their favourite activity was. Encourage them to explain what they enjoyed and why.

♻️ Junk Modelling Donations

Our supply of junk modelling materials is starting to run low! If you have any **clean cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, plastic jars, tubes or other suitable packaging**, we would be very grateful for any donations.

Please ensure that any food packaging **has not contained nuts or nut products**, as we have children with allergies in school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support! 💙