

Supporting your child's work at home - Spring 2017

In Upper Key Stage 2 - Poplars, Larches, Maples and Cedars - we follow a syllabus broadly based on the new National Curriculum, carefully adapted to the needs of the children.

Topic - "Out of this World - Sun, moon, stars"

- The sun, moon, earth and other planets
- Day & night / light & dark
- Forces - push / pull, friction, gravity
- Space station and moon landings
- Levers & pulleys
- Orienteering & dance
- Vincent Van Gogh's 'Starry, starry night'

Topic ideas for you - "Out of this World - Sun, moon, stars"

- Dress up as an astronaut
- Look at the night sky, look at the stars, notice the changing shapes of the moon (could draw on a chart)
- Practise counting down to lift off - 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 lift off!
- Visit the Think Tank to look at Space level
- Talk to your child about day light and night time darkness
- Make a junk model rocket
- Watch 'Wall-e' Disney film
- Build a rocket with construction
- Watch 'Baby Jake goes to space on Cbeebies
- Log on to purple mash (we will send details home) and explore space related activities
- On sunny days, play games with your shadow in the garden
- Watching what happens as you let items go and fall e.g. during playing ball games
- Watch related bbc class-clips
- Visit www.topmarks.co.uk (select 'Learning Games' and then "science")

Literacy - We follow a skills based Literacy curriculum which concentrates on speaking and listening, writing skills and reading - incorporating both whole-word and phonic skills.

- Support your child with their weekly spellings
- Hear your child read their home reader every week, preferably 3 times per week.
- Enjoy sharing your child's library book with them and encourage them to recall key information
- Tell us about their weekend and holiday activities so we can talk and write about their 'News' in school
- Encourage your child to complete activities with clear steps which may be recalled (e.g. wrapping a present, getting ready for bed, making a sandwich, etc.)
- Visit www.topmarks.co.uk (select 'Learning Games' and then 'English')

Numeracy - We focus on the following key areas of mathematics, which include number skills, shape space and measure, data handling and problem solving using mathematical knowledge.

- Practice recognising, counting, and ordering numbers regularly and explore number patterns such as counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Support your child with telling the time
- Provide real-life experiences of handling money
- Be 'shape detectives' around your home and the surrounding area
- Cooking - weighing for a real purpose
- Visit www.topmarks.co.uk (select 'Learning Games' and then 'Maths')