

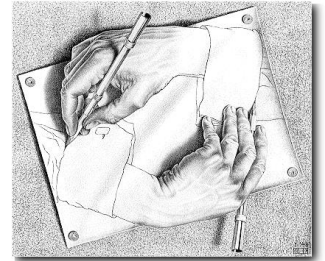
# Akrotiri School



Y5A

Mrs Ashford  
Escher class

Spring Term 2 - Information Guide  
2nd Half Term 2017



## Our learning this term

### Our topic is 'Stargazers'

**English** – Our focus this half term will be on examining and creating newspaper reports and news bulletins which concentrate on space-related news stories. This will also extend into a short unit on script writing.

**Maths** – Our work on fractions will continue this half term as we move onto multiplication of fractions. Then, latterly our focus will turn to decimals and percentages.

**Science** – Our 'Stargazers' topic will take us through an exciting unit called 'The Earth and beyond' as a discrete unit of science work from Collins Connect Snap Science.

**Other subjects** – Our art and design work will focus on drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials (e.g. pencil, charcoal, paint and clay). PE this half term will concentrate on all the key elements of athletics including the fundamentals of running, throwing and much more. Computing will also be largely centred on our space theme as the children work through the next unit with Mr McCool.

**VISITS AND ENRICHMENT** This half term, opportunities within Cyprus for external visits that relate to our space theme are seemingly non-existent (despite our best efforts). That said, we are hoping to hold a video conference lesson with the British Space Centre and have made contact with a couple of astronomy 'experts' who are willing to come into school to talk to the children and share their knowledge and research. Additionally, we are hoping to hold a stargazing evening which will allow the children to come back into school in the dark to undertake some fun activities.

**HOMEWORK:** A new homework sheet has been attached to the inside front cover of homework books with varying levels of challenge. Homework books will be sent home on a Friday and should be brought into school on a weekly basis when completed.

### **HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD**

Please support your child with their homework and encourage them to aim high and produce neat work of a good standard. Please also read with / listen to your child reading regularly (at least 1 hour a week) and comment and sign in the reading diary. Remember to question them about what they have read and make it a pleasurable experience.

### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

**PE:** Every Monday and Thursday

**French:** Lessons will continue this half-term with both the class teachers and Mrs Underwood. They remain very popular with children so... brush up on your French and get conversing!

### **READING**

**Spring 1** – It is important that your child's reading book and reading record comes into school **every day**. They will work with an adult to improve their reading skills at least once a week through guided reading sessions and in other lessons.

Our focus text this half term, in line with our Stargazers topic, will be '**George's Secret Key to the Universe**' by Lucy and Stephen Hawking (book supplied).

**SPELLING:** A spelling list will be sent home each Monday and tested the following Monday. The whole school spelling improvement 'drive' continues and we ask that you support your child at home also (to promote the importance of accurate spelling.) Collectively, we are focussing on Year 5 spellings from the National Curriculum but individually children may be set other spellings.

### **MENTAL MATHS FOCUS**

In class we are still focussing on improving our recall of times table facts and ask that you encourage your child to practice at home to build confidence, resilience and speed.  
**My Maths challenges will continue to be set regularly to consolidate learning that has taken place in class.**