



# Akrotiri School

Y5

Mrs Ashford & Mrs Roberts

Summer Term 1 - Information Guide 2018

## Our learning this term - Our topic is 'Star Trekking across the Universe'.

**English** – This half term will be continuing to examine and create our own newspaper reports and news bulletins which concentrate on space-related news stories. This will also extend into a short unit on script writing. We will then move our focus to fictional writing where we will be reading a range of existing myths and legends from other cultures on how the solar system was created and then using the key features that we have learnt to our own. We will also be learning how to use relative clauses and modal verbs in our writing.

**Maths** – We will be focusing on fractions this half term looking at improper fractions and mixed numbers, how we can add and subtract fractions that have the same denominators and how to calculate the common denominator when fractions have denominators that are multiples of one another. We will also be looking at how to compare, order and multiply fractions.

**Science** – Our 'Star Trekking across the Universe' topic will take us through an exciting unit called 'The Earth and beyond' where we will be learning about the planets within our solar system, why we have seasons, the different phases of the moon and the history of space travel.

**Art and Design** – Our art and design work will focus on drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials (e.g. pencil, charcoal, paint and modroc).

## ENRICHMENT and ENGAGEMENT

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 a visit from a local Astronomy 'Expert'. We will be holding a stargazing evening which will allow the children to come back into school in the dark to undertake some fun activities.

## READING:

Reading regularly at home is crucial to ensuring children's progress as readers. Our expectation of reading in Year 5 is that the children read for at least 15 minutes a day. It is important that your child's reading book and reading diary come into school **every day**. The children need to use their reading diary to keep a record of their reading. Each week there is a space for a 'reading reflection'. Guidance on completing this section will be given to the children. Reading diaries will be monitored weekly by Mrs Ashford and Mrs Roberts.

The reading diary also includes a section each week for any additional notes regarding homework, reminders for the children, as well as a space for parents to communicate messages to the teachers. If there ever is a message for us, please can you ask your child to hand the diary directly to either Mrs Ashford or Mrs Roberts.

Our focus text this half term, in line with our science based topic is 'George's Secret Key to the Universe' by Lucy and Stephen Hawking. We will be using the text to identify key grammar features, to deepen the level of children's responses to a text and to improve the use of evidence from a text to support the answers children give in response to questions.

## 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.

## 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.) We are focussing on Year 5 spellings from the National Curriculum but children may be set other spellings.

## MENTAL MATHS FOCUS:

In class we are trying to focus on children's general arithmetic and wider problem solving skills. Times tables will be a main focus as these permeate all maths topics. Please encourage children to continue to practice their arithmetic skills in all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using formal standard methods.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**PE:** Every Monday and Wednesday

**Swimming:** Swimming lessons will begin 01/05/18