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 Headteacher: Mrs. R. Black, B.Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents,

September 2025

5, 4, 3, 2, 1, LIFT OFF - Your child has blasted through the lower school and landed in Year 5! We hope this letter finds you well and you and your families had a delightful summer break. Our first topic of the year is SPACE and we thought it would be useful to give a brief overview of the exciting lessons we have been busy planning:

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
English	Developing children's reading and writing skills through various texts. Modern fiction (Science fiction) Structured poetry - Haikus (Space)	Developing children's reading and writing skills through various texts. Mixed Genre: Plays into drama, recounts, persuasion (Macbeth) Explanation Texts (Tim Peake)
Class Novel	The Boy in the Tower	The Jamie Drake Equation
Maths	Decimal Fractions Money	Negative Numbers Short multiplication and division
Science	Earth and Space	Forces: gravity, air resistance, water resistance, friction.
RE	Why is the Gospel such good news for Christians?	How do Christians show their belief that Jesus is incarnate?
Geography	World Locational Knowledge	
Art	Drawing: I Need Space	
DT		Electrical Systems: Wobble Bots
Music		Planets: Music inspired by the planets
PE	Outdoor Adventurous Activities Fitness	Tag Rugby Yoga
Computing	Flat file databases	Microbits: Selection in physical computing
PSHE	Being me in my world	Celebrating Difference
French	The date	

Year 5 and 6 words

The National Curriculum sets out a list of words that children must be able to spell by the end of Year 6. In Year 5, we learn how to spell all of the Year 5 and 6 words and encourage the children to implement them in their written work. You will find the Year 5 and 6 'Words of the week' on the half-termly spelling sheet that we send home, please practise these with your child.

PE

Our PE days are **Mondays (Outdoor Adventurous Activities)** and **Tuesdays** (Yoga in the hall with SCS coaches). PE Uniform will be worn on both these days: Red PE t-shirt, black shorts/joggers, red school sweatshirt/cardigan, trainers.

Equipment

All stationary will be provided by the school, children must not bring their own in. Lunchboxes and water bottles should be named and taken home each day for regular cleaning.

Homework - hand in day Friday

Homework is an essential part of Year 5 as we start to prepare your child for Year 6 and secondary school. It is important that you set homework expectations early on with your child so they can get into a manageable routine. Each child will be given a CGP Grammar book and the children will complete **two every week**. Maths homework is tailored to our learning in class and the children will complete worksheets stuck inside their Maths homework book. They will also be tested on their times tables with a speed grid and spelling test every **Friday**.

Homework	Frequency	Hand in day	Reward
Reading	At least 5 times a week.	Homework books and reading diaries must be handed in on a Friday.	Golden house point for all completed.
CGP Grammar books	Once a week		
Maths homework book	Once a week		
TT Rockstars and Ed Shed	5 minutes each daily		

Reading

At St Andrew's it is our intention to nurture well-read, enthusiastic, insightful and knowledgeable readers. To help foster a love of reading and books we have a library in each class with a rich collection of books to inspire the children. Children may borrow books from us but can also bring in their own books from home. Please click [here](#) for a recommended reading list for Year 5. We encourage children to read at least 5 times a week and record all reading in the school reading bookmark. This should be signed by a parent/carer **daily**.

Recommendations

Here are a list of things we recommend if you would like to enhance your child's learning during our Space topic:

Books - Space Band by Tom Fletcher, Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce, Neil Armstrong (Little People, Big Dreams book), Mae Jemison (Little People, Big Dreams book), Usborne Lift the flap Questions and Answers about Space book, The Cosmic Diary of our Incredible Universe by Tim Peake.

Outings - Southend Museum (planetarium), Stargazing at Great Notley Discovery Centre (check out the facebook page for the North Essex Astronomical Society), Greenwich Observatory, London.

Websites - European Space Agency (<https://www.esa.int/kids/en/learn>), NASA Space Place (<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/>), National Geographic Passport to Space (<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/space>).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries, we are very approachable and like to have good working relationships with parents. You can email us directly at year5@hatfieldpeverel-jun.essex.sch.uk and we will aim to get back to you as soon as possible. For matters which require urgent attention, please call the school office.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead and we thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Barker (Maple) and Miss O'Connor (Oak)