

Benson C of E Primary School

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January 2025

Headteacher: Mrs Pearce

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to another adventurous term. Our topic this term is **'Out of this World.'** We will be attending 'Astronaut School' and learning all about life in Space. We will be enjoying a space station set up in our role play corners and looking at constructing rockets using different materials. We will be developing our art skills by designing underpants that will appeal to aliens and making space prints. We will also be looking back into the past to see how transport has changed over the years.

We will be using the entertaining story books *'How to catch a star'* by Oliver Jeffers and *'Aliens love Underpants'* by Clare Freedman to help support our writing.

As always, children are welcome to bring in books that are related to the current topic. Please ensure that any books coming into school are named.

For more details on the rest of our learning this term, please see the topic web on our class page.

Astronaut School Day

On **Wednesday 7th January 2026** we will attending Astronaut School and enjoying a whole day of space related activities.

The children will be allowed to attend school in dressed up in anything to do with Space. E.g. astronaut, alien, your favourite planet, NASA technician, or a star!

We will attend astronaut school in the afternoon (No PE on that day) where the children will take part in the following activities.

Space Rocket : We will be launching our mini rockets using straws.

Rocket construction: We will be using magnetic shapes to build different shaped rockets

Space Walk: We will be using stilts to simulate walking in space and attempt to complete an assault course on the moon.

Planet bracelets: We will be learning about the order of the planets and make a bracelet to represent our solar system.

Space Station Experiment: We will be using rubber gloves to complete a construction challenge to simulate working in a space suit.

Space tent: We will be exploring light and dark using torches to find the hidden space objects and friendly aliens !

Astronaut Food: We will be taste testing some dry powdered 'space food' (powdered potatoes).



'Love one another, as I have loved you' John 13 v34

Reminders

PE days:

Our PE day is Wednesday.

Children should come dressed in warm (long trousers and hoodies) PE clothes and sensible trainers on their PE day. Please remember that long hair should be tied up and earrings should be covered with tape.

Toys from home - Please **DO NOT** bring toys into school, as they may be lost or broken.

Reading at home - Please continue to read with your child **daily** and remember to bring in reading books to be changed on the correct day.

Outdoor clothing - Please ensure that your child has a named **waterproof** coat and wellies in school. Please also ensure that any hats , gloves, and scarves are also clearly named. Please ensure your child has a change of clothes (weather appropriate) in case they splash in too many puddles.

Please be aware that reception newsletters and announcements usually come from beech class email, but they are intended for both classes.

As always, if you have any concerns or need to make us aware of anything urgent, then do come and speak to us. We are normally available at the end of the day for a quick chat, or send us an email at beech@benison.oxon.sch.uk or elm@benison.oxon.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Mrs White and Mr Morris