

Mathematics:

Working towards ELG: Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number.

We will be following the school's Mastering number programme & White Rose Maths schemes of work.

The areas covered this term are:

Subitising to 5 using dice patterns

Counting, seeing that each number is 1 more than the previous number - staircase pattern


Composition, focusing on 5

Composition, focusing on 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit'

Composition, using the language of comparing sets, more than, fewer than equal to

Measure ingredients to make rocket kebabs.

Use 2D shapes to create space pictures.



Beech & Elm Reception Class Topic Web

Term 3 2025 - 2026

Topic: Out Of This World

Focus: Phonics, guided reading, writing, number work, Outer Space.

Expressive arts and design:

Working towards ELG: Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs; Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music.

Suggested activities:

Create a space picture using wax crayons and then paint over it with watery black paint.

Learn and sing space related songs accompanied with musical instruments.

Junk modelling: make a space rocket or alien spaceship or even an alien!

Space rocket tray set up with different space like characters for the children to make up their own space stories.

Galaxy paintings. Children look at images of different galaxies before exploring painting techniques to create their own galaxy painting: flicking; sprinkle glitter; use the wooden end of brushes to spread paint blobs across the paper etc.

Sing Up Music scheme: Cuckoo Polka & Shake my sillies out

Role-play area: Space Centre

SPACE DAY 7th January 2026 : We will attend Astronaut school to get ready for our journey into Space. We will be making rockets , learning how to space walk and learning about the different planets.

Understanding the world:

Working towards ELG: Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class

Suggested activities: Explore light and dark using torches to see inside 'the space box' - the children will shine their torch into the dark box to see what space objects they can see.

Magnet stars in the water tray - children explore using magnet fishing rods to collect magnet stars - how many can they collect?

This term's Kapow RE unit: Why are some places special? We will be looking at different places of Worship such churches and mosques.

We will be looking at Transport through time – particularly flying machines.

Literacy:

Topic books include Aliens Love Underpants; How To Catch A Star

Reading:

Working towards ELG: Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary; Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending.

The children will continue with their Rocket Phonics Programme. The children's targeted, levelled guided reading book will follow the phonics taught in class.

Sounds/Phonemes covered this half term are:

J/j & V/v example words: jet, jug, vet, van

W/w & X/x example words: web, wag, box, six

Y/y & Z/z example words: yak, yell, zip, zigzag

/z/ as S * Qu example words: bugs, pegs, squid, quack

Consolidate j, v, w, x example words: seven, jam, taxi, twig

Consolidate y, z, zz, /z/ as s & qu example words: zebra, yak, hens, quilt

The common misconception words this term are: all, are, her, they, my, you, be, was, we, me

Writing:

Working towards ELG: Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed; Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.

If the children are confident with name writing, they will now write 'My name is...' for morning work on arrival at school each day.

The children will continue to practise forming the letters of the sounds taught in their phonics sessions.

The children will continue to use whiteboard pens and mini whiteboards to write CVC words taught in their phonics sessions.

Children will learn how to use a phonics mat to help them sound out a word and write it down.

Children will use colourful semantics to write sentences about a picture from our topic books.

Physical development:

Working towards ELG: Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing; Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases.

Fine motor skills activities: Build a rocket using blocks and snap cubes - the children can look at photos of rockets and spaceships for inspiration. Play dough aliens - encouraging the children to enhance their aliens by adding sticks for arms and beads for eyes etc.

Gross motor skills activities: Play the parachute game with an alien doing space jumps in the centre. Children will be invited to take part in rocket relay races at playtime. Space balloon - how long can the class keep a balloon in the air by tapping it to each other?

We will have weekly **P.E. lessons** on Wednesdays following the school's PE Hub scheme of work. This term is BODY MANAGEMENT.

We will have weekly Super Stretching sessions on Fridays to develop the children's balancing and stretching skills as well as concentration skills to follow the super stretching story and the instructions.

Personal, social and emotion development:

Working towards ELG: Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

Suggested activities:

The children will continue to follow the school's S.C.A.R.F. scheme of work. This term's S.C.A.R.F. topic is: KEEPING MYSELF SAFE. The children will discuss topics such as medicines, safety indoors & outdoors, listening to feelings, online safety and people who keep us safe.

Circle time - talk about astronauts being away from home for a long time ask the children what they do to make themselves feel better when they miss someone - make a class list.

Circle time - You're a star! Stars are chosen from a box with the children's names on them. Each time a star is chosen, the children need to share thoughts on why that person is a star.

Communication and Language:

Working towards ELG: • Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding; Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.

Activities:

Play the 'guess who' game with pictures of friendly aliens.

Circle time - what do they see at nighttime when they look out of the window or look up at the sky?

Once familiar with the class topic book, children sequence story pictures and retell the story to adults and friends - do this with both topic books.

We will be retelling our stories using 'Story Woosh' technique which involves everyone taking a turn to act out and tell the part of the story.