

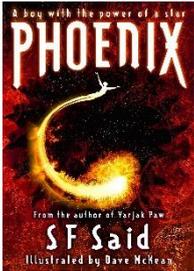


Welcome back Otters and Pine Martens!

Here is a brief overview of **Autumn Term 2 2018**:

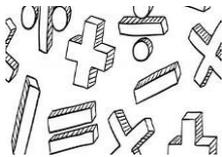


TOPIC: Until Christmas, our exciting topic is '**A Space Odyssey**'. This half term we will explore humans in space and possible implications for the future, as well as light and how it travels. There will be many opportunities for art, investigations and writing. We are looking forward to presentation week (commencing Monday 5th November) and hearing about all the amazing alien worlds that have been created. We would like to invite you to **celebrate our learning on Friday 9th November from 9.00 -9.30a.m.**



ENGLISH: Our English continues to be based on the stunning novel '**Phoenix**' by **S.F. Said**. We will develop narratives, letters and diary entries based on the text, pictures and film clips. The book also forms the basis for our daily **whole-class guided reading sessions** where we will explore the story in further detail through drama, discussion and by honing our inference skills.

READING: All children should be reading daily at home. After lunch every day we have a 15 minute **silent reading session** and strongly encourage the children to bring in their current home reading book. Please check the website for author and book recommendations (<https://www.thetydings.co.uk/children-and-classes/upper-KS2>). **Grammar skills and spelling sessions** (known as SPaG) take place daily with weekly **spelling tests on Fridays**. Please check the website for spelling lists. Wrong spelling words from the morning's test will be corrected by your child during Friday lunchtime.



MATHS: We will focus on multiplication and division, both mental strategies and formal written methods. All of the skills will be taught then applied to solving multi-step word problems. There will also be lots of input on mental agility – so get practising with your times tables, number bonds, mental addition and subtraction etc. **Times table tests will be on Fridays**. Remember to use Mathletics at home.



P.E. Please ensure you have your **complete named kit at all times** (shorts, house T-shirt, trainers/daps, tracksuit bottoms and jumper for outdoor lessons). Girls' hair **MUST** be tied back and all jewellery, including stud earrings, removed or covered with tape. We will have one weekly outdoor session of **tag rugby with a sports coach on Thursdays** and **swimming on Mondays**. Please ensure your child has their complete swim kit (costume, towel, goggles if required, each Monday in a waterproof bag/ backpack). **Please note that after half term, Otters and Pine Martens have swapped their swimming order.**

Otters will leave school at 1pm. Pine Martens at 1.30pm. Thank you to all the volunteers who walk up and back with us, come rain or shine, we couldn't go without your support.

PPA: Mrs Say will cover PPA with the sports coach on **Thursday mornings**. She will be taking the class for **forest school**. As the weather gets more wintery, please ensure children have a complete change of clothes, a warm coat and wellies every Thursday.



WATER BOTTLES: Our brains will be challenged in Year 5! Please bring a **full water bottle** in every day to keep you alert and hydrated.



Homework: Thank you for your continued support with homework. We will continue to give spellings, Maths and English homework every Friday, to be marked together in class the following Friday.

AND FINALLY... Please do not hesitate to see us if you have any problems or concerns.

Mrs Ponsford (Pine Martens) and Miss Hudson (Otters)

Dates for your diary (so far):

Mon Nov 5th Term 2 begins

Friday 9th Nov Parent celebration 9 – 9.30am

Friday 16th Nov 2.30pm Pine Martens' class assembly

Wed 5th Dec (provisional booking) Yr 5 to Memorial Stadium for 'show racism the red card' workshops

Thurs 13th Dec (provisional) 6pm KS2 carol concert at Staple Hill Methodist church

Mon 17th Dec 10.30 a.m KS2 church service at St Stephen's church

Fri 21st Dec last day of Term 2!