



Theme

In this exciting "Space" unit, children will embark on an imaginative journey through the solar system, exploring planets, stars, rockets, and the wonder of space travel. Through hands-on activities like building rockets, creating constellations, and exploring space movements, children will deepen their understanding of the world around them. By learning about astronauts, space missions, and the mysteries of the night sky, they will foster curiosity, teamwork, and a love of discovery as they explore the universe!

Literacy

Children will explore space-themed books like "How to Catch a Star" by Oliver Jeffers. They'll start to recognize letters in words like "moon" and "star" and practice simple mark-making with space-themed colouring sheets. Children will engage in activities that support early reading and writing skills through space-related visuals and stories.

Phonics

Read, Write Inc Phonics and Daily Supported Reading
Children will continue to have daily streamed phonics and reading lessons. Please ensure they are reading for 20 minutes every evening and this is being recorded in their reading records. Children will be reassessed for their levels towards the end of the term.

Religious Education

Christianity:

Week 1: Who is special to me?

Week 2: How would it feel to lose something special?

Week 3/4: Why was each sheep important to the shepherd in the parable of the lost sheep?

Week 5: How am I special?

Week 6: How do others keep safe?

Mathematics

Children will practice counting down from 5 with "rocket" finger play and engage in activities that introduce basic shapes and numbers. They'll explore sorting objects by size (e.g., big and small rockets), count stars, and create simple patterns with materials like stars and planets. Activities will help develop a strong foundation in early mathematical concepts.

Music

Nursery children start their journey of discovering their singing voices in "Singing Skills 1: Find your Voice." With a focus on pitch-matching, children explore different pitches and tones in a fun and engaging way. They begin to grasp the concept of matching their voices with various pitches, laying the foundation for future musical expression.

Understanding the World

Children will explore the solar system by learning about the sun, moon, and stars. They'll observe the phases of the moon and engage with space-themed videos and visuals. Through pretend play as astronauts, children will begin to understand space exploration and develop curiosity about how the world and the universe work.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will create space-themed artwork, such as painting stars on black paper and making planets with glitter and paint. They'll also engage in imaginative play by building rockets with cardboard tubes and creating astronaut helmets using foil. The focus will be on creativity and expression through art, music, and pretend play.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

Children will develop confidence and independence by engaging with their peers and teachers. They'll explore emotions, learn to take turns, and practice self-care. Through play and group activities, children will strengthen their social skills, building relationships and learning how to share and communicate.

Physical Development

Children will practice "space movements" like slow-motion walking, bouncing, and floating in space. They will create large motor movements to represent planetary orbits and use fine motor skills to create star patterns with cotton swabs. Children will also enjoy building rockets with foam blocks, encouraging physical coordination and balance through imaginative play.

Communication and Language

Children will enjoy space-themed stories like "Whatever Next!" by Jill Murphy, and songs such as "Zoom, Zoom, We're Going to the Moon!" to develop listening and speaking skills. Through storytelling, role play, and conversations about planets and space, children will expand their vocabulary and use language to express their ideas about space exploration.

Trips and Visits

St Barnabas Service—30th January 2025
St Philip's Service—3rd March 2025
St Barnabas Service—3rd April 2025