



Autumn 1 Newsletter



NORTHSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL Year 5 – University of Manchester

Respect, Pride, Inclusion, Challenge, Creativity, Resilience

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely summer and that you are ready for another year of wonderful learning. Our Big Question this half term is:

'One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.'
What is our place within Space?

Key dates:

Rosh Hashanah Day – Friday, 11th September, 2026

Meet the teacher – Tuesday, 15th September, 2026

Africa Day – Friday, 9th October, 2026

Science Museum trip – Monday, 19th October, 2026

English 	We will be exploring, planning and writing three genres: stories with historical settings (narrative), instruction writing (non-narrative) and tanka poems (poetry). We will be focusing on: • subordinating and co-ordinating conjunctions and marking subordinate clauses with a comma • using expanded noun phrases with different determiners • using and demarcating fronted adverbials • revising full stops, capital letters and exclamation marks • using imperative and modal verbs • introducing new punctuation such as brackets for additional information • using possessive apostrophes and tenses correctly Our extended writing outcomes will include a historical story, a set of instructions and our own tanka poems.
Reading 	Our Terrific Texts this half term are 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce and 'One Giant Leap' by Robert Burleigh. We will be focusing on the following reading skills: • recognizing and discussing features of historical fiction • using background knowledge to make connections and predictions • identifying new words and how images are created in our minds • developing understanding of plot, character and themes • understanding different poetry structures
Mathematics 	We will be learning about: • Roman Numerals • place value for numbers up to 1,000,000 • partitioning, comparing, ordering and rounding numbers within 1,000,000 • using number lines • adding and subtracting numbers mentally and using formal written methods too • factors and multiples
Science 	Our science topic this half-term is Earth and Space. We will be learning about:

	- the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system - the movement of the moon relative to the Earth - day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky
Foundation subjects: Each subject has dedicated time, weekly. 	French: Children will continue to work on their French phonics, learn how to say what the date is, and start a new topic all about what pets they have and don't have. Music: We will be continuing to develop ukulele skills, learning new songs and chord patterns. We will practise playing as an ensemble. PE: In PE, we will be learning the skills of handball, including passing and shooting. DT: We will be learning about different types of bread and the techniques used to make it; we will then design, cook and evaluate our own bread rolls. Humanities: We will be learning about the Space Race between the USSR and the USA, including the Lunar landings. RE: In RE, we will be reflecting on what is real and what is not, focusing on the religion of Christianity. RSHE: We will be learning about diversity, different types of discrimination, online bullying, and respecting others' beliefs, traditions and lifestyles. We will also be discussing different types of friendship and how to resolve disputes. Computing: We will be learning about online systems and how they make our lives easier. We will focus on understanding and using search engines.

Click here to see our key words for Year 5: [Year 5 Vocabulary Overview](#)

Things to remember:

Monday and Wednesday – children wear PE kits

Homework is due in on Mondays

Homework expectations:

The homework expectation is:

- reading daily (20-30 minutes)
- at least 3 Spelling Shed tasks to be completed each week
- MyMaths tasks to be completed each week
- Times Table Rockstars every day

Please ensure that your child brings their Reading Record into school every day, with a comment from the previous evening and your signature.

Your child may receive some extra homework if it is felt that it would be beneficial for them to complete additional tasks.

Places to visit to develop your children's learning further:

The Royal Observatory, Greenwich

The Science Museum, South Kensington, including 'Wonderlab'

National Maritime Museum, Greenwich (displays about navigating by the stars)

Contact information:

Please contact the office if you would like to set up a meeting to discuss any issues. Alternatively, contact us via the WhatsApp group with any issues/questions/suggestions that need a quicker response.

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you are able to support any of our learning in any way, please do let us know.

Ms Greenhill, Mrs Moore, Mrs Reeve and Mrs Stylianou

