

Theme Overview

“Mission Control” is a thematic unit based around the subject of ‘Earth and Beyond’, with a key focus on science and history. Pupils learn about the Earth, Sun and Moon and their relationship to each other, before finding out more about space exploration and communication.

English

In English we will read the biographies of some famous, and not so famous, astronauts including Sally Ride, Victor Glover Jr, Zena Cardman and Reid Wiseman. We will identify the features of biographies and then research and write our own biographies about Neil Armstrong. We will also research the Solar System and produce information sheets about the Planets, Moon and Sun demonstrating the knowledge gained in topic work. In addition we will do some creative writing around the fictional planet of Pandora from Avatar.

Maths

We will begin by strengthening our understanding of place value up to 1 000 000 by reading and writing numbers, finding more or less than, comparing and ordering them and rounding them. We will then move on to mental and written methods for addition and subtraction of numbers with more than 4 digits. Children will learn strategies such as using the inverse, rounding and estimating and will solve multi-step problems.

RE

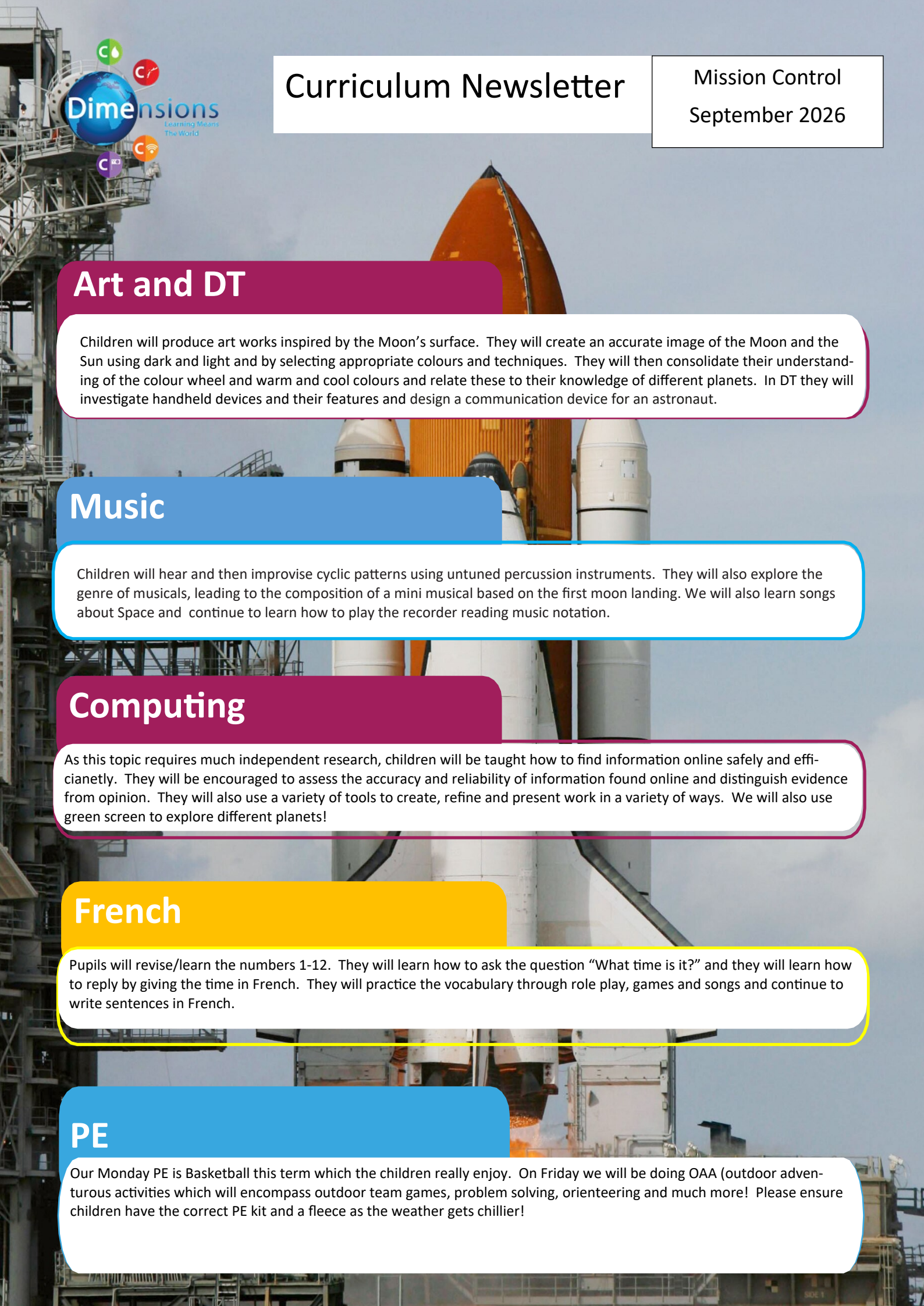
We will investigate the question “What does it mean if God is Loving and Holy?”. Pupils will investigate ideas of God in biblical texts and explore what Christians believe about what God is like. In particular, they will explore the Christian idea that God is both holy (angered by sin) and loving (forgiving of sin).

History

Children will find out about the history of Space exploration and discovery from the first astronomers to the current Moon missions. They will develop knowledge of famous astronomers and astronauts and learn about the development, and role, of satellite communication. They will develop their own questions and carry out research to answer them, presenting their findings to others. We will learn about the influence of US Soviet relations and the space Race.

Science

Children will learn that the Sun, Earth and Moon are roughly spherical bodies and explain the movement of the Earth relative to the Sun in the Solar System. They will use the idea of the Earth’s rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. They will also find out about, and explain, the movement of the moon relative to Earth.



Art and DT

Children will produce art works inspired by the Moon's surface. They will create an accurate image of the Moon and the Sun using dark and light and by selecting appropriate colours and techniques. They will then consolidate their understanding of the colour wheel and warm and cool colours and relate these to their knowledge of different planets. In DT they will investigate handheld devices and their features and design a communication device for an astronaut.

Music

Children will hear and then improvise cyclic patterns using untuned percussion instruments. They will also explore the genre of musicals, leading to the composition of a mini musical based on the first moon landing. We will also learn songs about Space and continue to learn how to play the recorder reading music notation.

Computing

As this topic requires much independent research, children will be taught how to find information online safely and efficiently. They will be encouraged to assess the accuracy and reliability of information found online and distinguish evidence from opinion. They will also use a variety of tools to create, refine and present work in a variety of ways. We will also use green screen to explore different planets!

French

Pupils will revise/learn the numbers 1-12. They will learn how to ask the question "What time is it?" and they will learn how to reply by giving the time in French. They will practice the vocabulary through role play, games and songs and continue to write sentences in French.

PE

Our Monday PE is Basketball this term which the children really enjoy. On Friday we will be doing OAA (outdoor adventurous activities which will encompass outdoor team games, problem solving, orienteering and much more! Please ensure children have the correct PE kit and a fleece as the weather gets chillier!

