Stargazing

Journey through space
– the final frontier! Let's
take a trip to the stars,
planets and suns and
discover the amazing
wonders of the night sky.

During this half term,
we'll read information
texts to find out about the Solar System and the Sun, using mnemonics to help us remember the facts. We'll make a Solar System and investigate the cycle of day into night. We'll learn about Galileo, the 'father' of modern astronomy and his famous astronomical discoveries. Taking on the roles of the planets, we'll use movement to demonstrate the motions of the planets and moons. We'll investigate lunar myths and write astronaut poetry. Then we'll make a space shuttle or satellite, testing the materials for durability, and we'll program toys to explore a lunar landscape.

At the end of the project, we'll look at alien-themed comics, invent our own aliens and consider the big question: why is there life on Earth? Finally, we'll invite you to our 'Visitors' centre' and share our knowledge with you.

Help your child prepare for their project
The possibilities are endless when you're thinking about the vastness of space. Why not work together to make a papier mâché model of your favourite planet? You could also watch a science-fiction film or read a book to see how space is presented. Alternatively, visit the local library together to find fascinating non-fiction books about space.

Memorable experience	Visit an observatory or planetarium
Innovate challenge	Rocket launch
English	Mnemonics; Myths and legends; Free verse poetry; Newspaper reports; Descriptions
Science	Earth and space; Forces; Working scientifically
A&D	Printing; Design
Computing	Programming; Stop motion animation
D&T	Selecting materials; Research; Structures; Evaluation
Geography	Locating physical features
History	Significant individuals – Galileo Galilei, Isaac Newton; 1960s space race
Music	Music; Lyrics
PE	Dance
Science investigations	How do we know the Earth is round? Can we track the Sun? How do rockets off? Why do planets have craters? How does the Moon move?