



# Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School Newsletter September 29th

---

*Welcome to the Prior's Mill Newsletter - this is shared weekly and will contain key dates and information, paper copies are available at the office 29.09.23*

---

## In This Issue



This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**
- **SPA - WE NEED YOU**
- **BBC 500 Words**
- **Digital Leaders - WhatsApp**
- **Attendance**
- **Worship Theme - Flourish**
- **Class News**
- **Key Dates**
- **NEW! Picture News (We thought you might like to read 'Picture News' this is shared with children in a class worship every week)**



## School Trip Fun and Learning



Pupils in both Key Stage 1/2 enjoyed school trips this week to the Hancock Museum in Newcastle and Captain Cook Museum in Middlesbrough. It's fantastic that pupils were able to experience artefacts at first hand and learn from experts in order to boost their knowledge and understanding of different aspects of the curriculum. We have some KS1 pictures later in the newsletter. Keep your eyes open for the curriculum newsletter that will be emailed out next week that will share the learning your child is doing this term.

Mr Farrell has also produced a Computing Newsletter and is offering some drop in sessions to help support parents with any tech questions they have or advice about how to keep children safe online. We have two sessions the week after next on a morning and afternoon please feel free to drop in.

### **Prior's Promise Pals**

We are looking for 2 pupils in each year group to be a Prior's Pupil Pal and identify children in school who display the Prior's Promise school values on a regular basis.

**\* We are Honest**

**\* We are Kind**

**\* We give our Best**

**\*We Forgive**

**\*We are Respectful**

Application Forms are available in school and certificates are ready to be given out!

### **Billingham United Football Club**

Billingham United FC have asked us to advertise that they are looking specifically for Girls to join their Y4 Team if you are interested then please get in touch with the club directly. If you are not a girl in Y4 but are interested in joining one of the teams organised by the club then they would also like to hear from you.

SRC Bede Sports Centre, Marsh House Ave, Stockton-on-Tees, Billingham TS23 3EH

[committee@billinghamunited.co.uk](mailto:committee@billinghamunited.co.uk)

<https://billinghamunited.co.uk/contact/>

### **Harvest**

We would like to encourage everyone in the school community to drop off donations of tinned food and non-perishable items so that we can make hampers as part of our harvest festival celebrations. Pupils would like these hampers to go to deserving members of the local community. If you have any suggestions please can you let the office at KS1 and KS2 know.

### **Holidays in Term Time**

We have had a huge increase in holiday forms lately and although I can appreciate the challenges created by the cost of living crisis and the incredible cost of going away in the school holidays - going away during term time is not the answer. The results we obtained last year reflected how well children with good attendance did compared to those with a number of absences. I appreciate that there are some situations where it may be unavoidable and each case is looked at individually, however if you do require time off from school during term time please consider the following information:

- A holiday request form must be submitted 4 weeks prior to the event

- Leave of absence without completing a form will result in a fixed penalty notice for both parents
- We are currently issuing fixed penalty notices for absences longer than 5 days that do not meet the criteria

The school is working very hard to support parents and pupils to attend regularly and achieve highly - Mrs Hanson our Pupil Welfare Officer.

### **Parking and Dogs**

Please can I ask all parents not to park across residential driveways near to school we have had a number of incidents reported this week where residents have returned home to find their driveways blocked. We have also been told that drivers have responded angrily and been abusive to residents when asked to move. I appreciate the parking challenges but would urge parents to respect the homes and driveways of people in the local community as any adverse behaviour and reaction reflects badly on the school. I've approached the local council to explore ways in which parking can be improved.

We had an incident yesterday where a pupil was attacked by an unattended dog tied to the school railings please can all dogs be kept on lead and not left unattended. It is against school policy to allow dogs on site.

**I have included some key reminders about next week below:**

**\*Whole School Photographs Friday 6th October**

**If you have any queries, worries or safeguarding concerns over the summer holidays then please use the email address:**

[office@priorsmill.org.uk](mailto:office@priorsmill.org.uk)

**The email account will be monitored regularly throughout the holidays and we will endeavour to reply to any queries as soon as possible.**



1 - The school appointed Beatrice Hanratty as Head Girl and Fletcher Foreman as Head Boy. Bradley Baron was appointed as Deputy Head Boy and Isabelle Zapalski was appointed Deputy Head Girl.

Thanks to Mrs Ann Hope for sharing this lovely message:

Our lovely lollypop man Peter, is raising money for Cancer Research for his wife Claire who is now in remission from lung cancer.

Peter has had both his knees replaced but he is planning to walk as much as possible to raise money.

He is such a lovely man and a great lollypop man

[https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/peters-giving-page-885?fbclid=IwAR3xfRJGBaXWIRCTfTbvCY70cU1FDoeJKYDqOjmlU104LYoYQuq\\_Oc-91M](https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/peters-giving-page-885?fbclid=IwAR3xfRJGBaXWIRCTfTbvCY70cU1FDoeJKYDqOjmlU104LYoYQuq_Oc-91M)



2 - [Peter's Giving Page](#) Thanks for taking the time to visit my Giving Page. Cancer is happening right now, which is why I'm fundraising right now for Cancer Research UK. There's no time to lose! Donate to my page today and help bring forward the day when all cancers are cured. [fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org](https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org)

## SPA - WE NEED YOU!



In the current economic climate this money is essential in raising funds for things that we would like in school.

It is essential that we are able to create a group of staff and parents that are willing to carry this great work on. Currently the SPA is made up of mainly staff and it would be great to have a few more parents involved. I promise this will not take up a huge time commitment but can be fitted in around your own priorities. It could be 30 mins labelling tombola items or bagging up sweets for a disco.

Without increased parental support then a number of additional events such as discos will be cancelled as school does not have the capacity alone to organise and prepare them.

If you can spare any time at all to join SPA then it would be greatly appreciated by the staff team and ultimately by the pupils who will benefit from having a number of events to attend during and after school.

Please contact Mrs Twomey in the office [office@priorsmill.org.uk](mailto:office@priorsmill.org.uk) / 01642650426



## BBC 500 Words Competition



BBC's 500 Words is the UK's largest children's story writing competition for 5-11 year-olds. Opens Tuesday 26 September - Friday 10 November. Please click the link below for further information as the whole school will have the opportunity to take part!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4>

## Digital Leaders - Whatsapp







This week Beatrice and Luke (Digital Leaders) have chosen the online safety guide and it has a focus on WhatsApp. If there are any apps or online sites that parents would like a fact sheet about then please get in touch and we'll try and provide one.

***Any safeguarding concerns can be relayed to:***

***Mr Linsley - Designated Safeguarding Lead***

***Miss Huddart - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead***

***The safeguarding policy is on our website and you can also request a paper copy from the office. We will also share with you our pupil version of the safeguarding policy.***

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children. We don't want to see your child's device full of things they shouldn't be. Please and we're not here to tell you what to do. We're here to help you do it.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users exchanging text, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. It's free to use and doesn't require a phone number. Only your messages to be viewed by the sender and only you can delete your WhatsApp chat content. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to crack down on the use of WhatsApp for grooming, sexual exploitation and other illegal activities. WhatsApp is available in the UK through the app store on your smartphone.

### EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a favourite for scammers. Recent examples include people on the 'buyers' chat, requesting a financial 'emergency'. This is a scam where the scammer triggers a verification message by asking you to log in to your account, then asking for WhatsApp's code to log you in, giving them access to your account.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

The most likely someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could reach out to them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat by one of their friends, but someone contacting other people that they don't know.

### FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly, whether it's true or not. To combat this, WhatsApp has introduced a feature that allows users to forward messages more than five times on the app and a warning message will be shown. This will also be done to messages that are forwarded more than five times on the app. This will also be done to messages that are forwarded more than five times on the app. This will also be done to messages that are forwarded more than five times on the app.

### 'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The feature allows images or messages that can only be viewed once. This means that if someone sends you a message that they've marked as 'view once', you'll only be able to see it once. If you've seen it, it will disappear. This is a great way to keep your privacy safe, but it's also a great way for someone to spy on you. If you've seen a message that's marked as 'view once', it will disappear. This is a great way to keep your privacy safe, but it's also a great way for someone to spy on you.

### CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to lock sensitive messages for chats in a separate 'locked chat' folder. These messages are hidden from anyone who isn't a member of the chat. This is a great way to keep your privacy safe, but it's also a great way for someone to spy on you.

### VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature allows users to share their location with someone else. This is a great way to keep your privacy safe, but it's also a great way for someone to spy on you.

## Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unsolicited messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like it's from a friend or family member. WhatsApp users can be easily impersonated. Encourage your child to think about who they're talking to and to be wary of anyone who asks for personal information. Encourage your child to be wary of anyone who asks for personal information.

### THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy to send off too many messages or to share something that you shouldn't. Encourage your child to think about who they're talking to and to be wary of anyone who asks for personal information.

### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy' then 'Settings' to access) which of their contacts and their 'group chats' without needing approval. You can give permission to any contacts or 'group chats' to contact you. Encourage your child to be wary of anyone who asks for personal information.

### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'locked chat' folder, you might want to talk about the need to be careful about who they're talking to and to be wary of anyone who asks for personal information.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr. Helen Jones is a leading expert in child online safety. She has worked with the Home Office, the Met, and the NSPCC. She is also a member of the Home Office's Child Protection Advisory Group. She has written several books on child online safety and has been featured on the news and in the media.

### ...HEY OSCAR...

National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

## Attendance Matters



### IMPORTANT REMINDER

In accordance with School and Trust Policy any unauthorised absences (that are not subject to exceptional circumstances) will be subject to a fixed penalty notice.

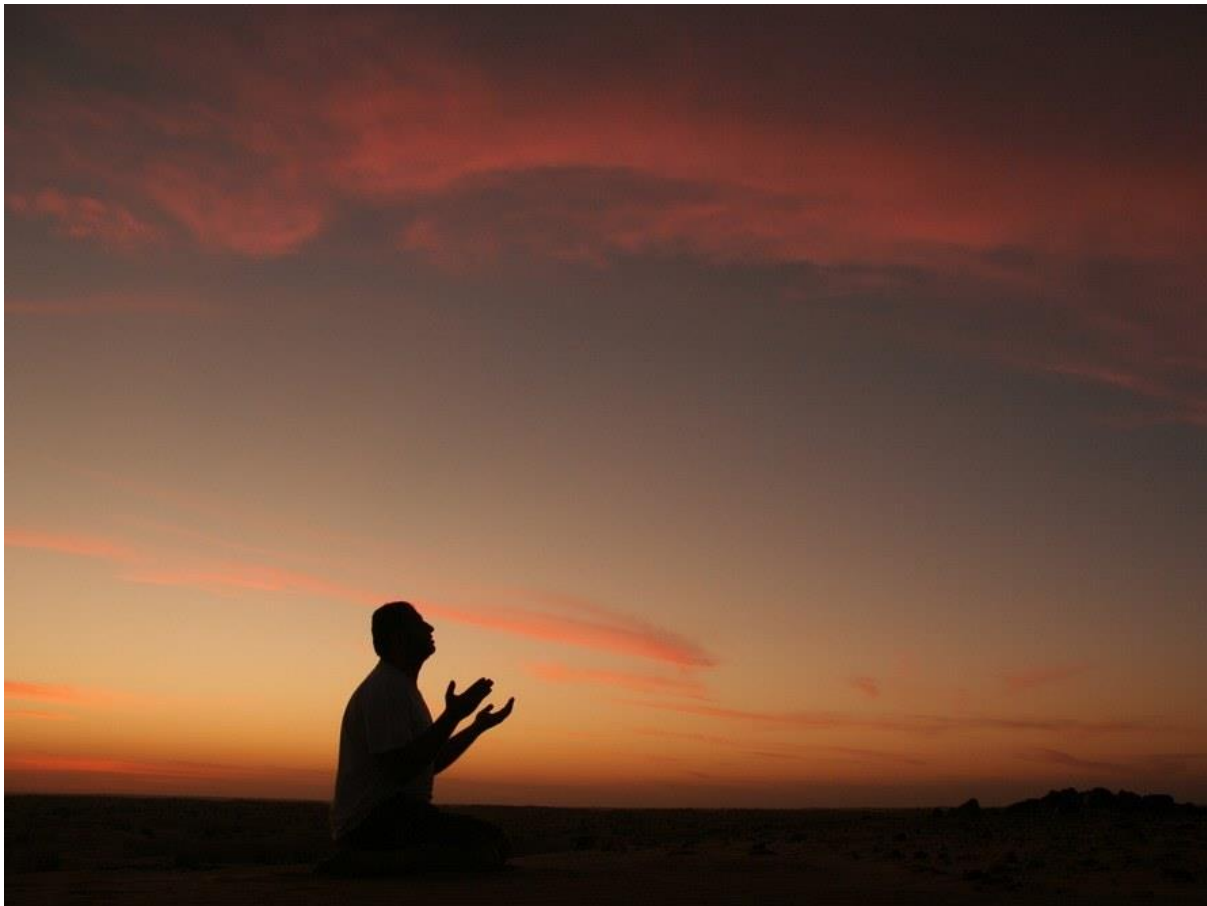
**Current School Attendance is 95.6% (-0.4% from last week) this is just below the DFE target of 96%. We need to try and make sure we can maintain whole school attendance this year and aim for 96 - 98%!**

We strongly advise that any holiday in term time should be avoided due to the impact of lost learning time on children. Please be aware that leave of absence (holiday) during term time will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances. It is school policy to refer any unauthorised absence due to holiday to the local authority who may issue a fixed penalty notice. This is a penalty of up to £120 per child, per parent and so can add up to a significant amount. The school does not receive any revenue from fines; the money is paid to the Local Authority. In addition, we now have a new system in school for pupils who are late. Pupils must be escorted to the office in the main building and a form completed by parents/carers to sign the pupils in and indicate the reason for the lateness. This is for our records and also to avoid pupils becoming distressed.

All gates are opened at 8.20am, KS1 & 2 staff will be in attendance and children remain in the yard until school doors are opened just before 8.30am. For Nursery and Reception children gates are opened for access and to ease congestion on Clifton Avenue and staff are not in attendance until school doors are then opened just before 8.30am. Children should remain supervised until then. Pre-School will open at 8:25am.

**LATE MARKS ALSO IMPACT NEGATIVELY ON ATTENDANCE PLEASE TRY TO BE ON TIME!**

## Worship Theme - GROWING



### **GROWING IS GOD'S GIFT**

#### **Genesis 1**

I wonder how and why our bodies grow? I wonder what would stop us growing? I wonder what the Bible says about how the world first started to grow?

I wonder how many miles a pizza travels? I wonder if it really just a few miles from the delivery shop round the corner? You could have children assemble a pizza as follows

Flour (base) 5400 miles from N America

Tomatoes 1000 miles Italy

Tuna 5600 miles Mauritius



Pineapples 4500 miles Kenya

Peppers 400 miles Dutch

Mushrooms 200 miles even though UK

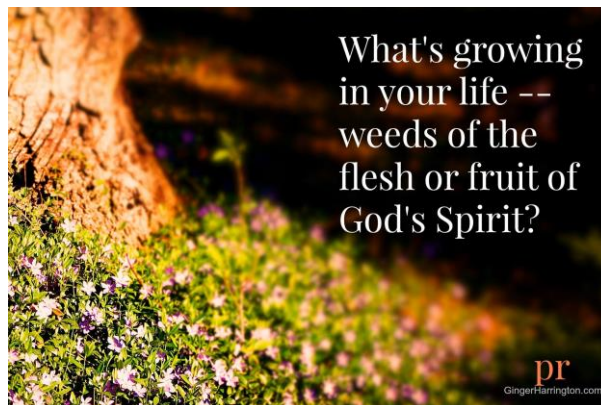
Black pepper 5000 miles India

Mozzarella 1000 miles Italy

Total=23000 miles

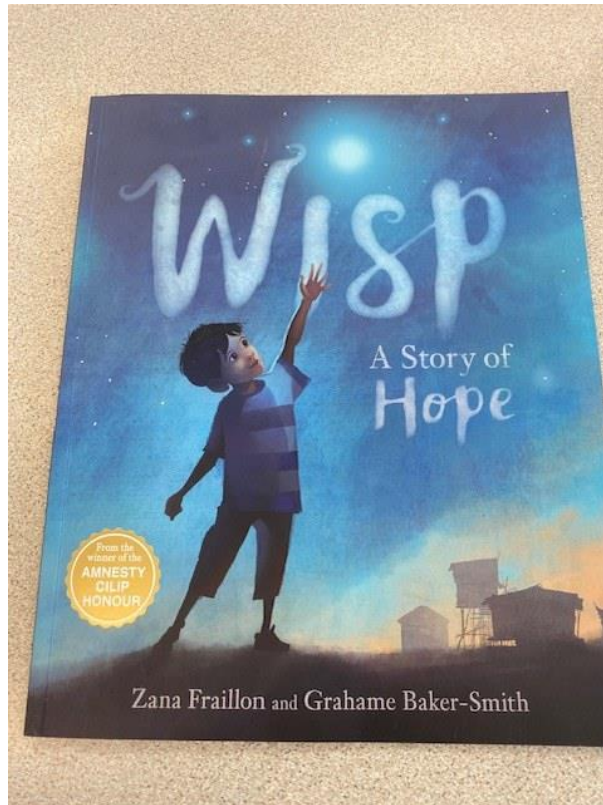
Or you could do something similar with foods from the supermarket that come from far away.

<https://www.foodmiles.com/>



## Class News

































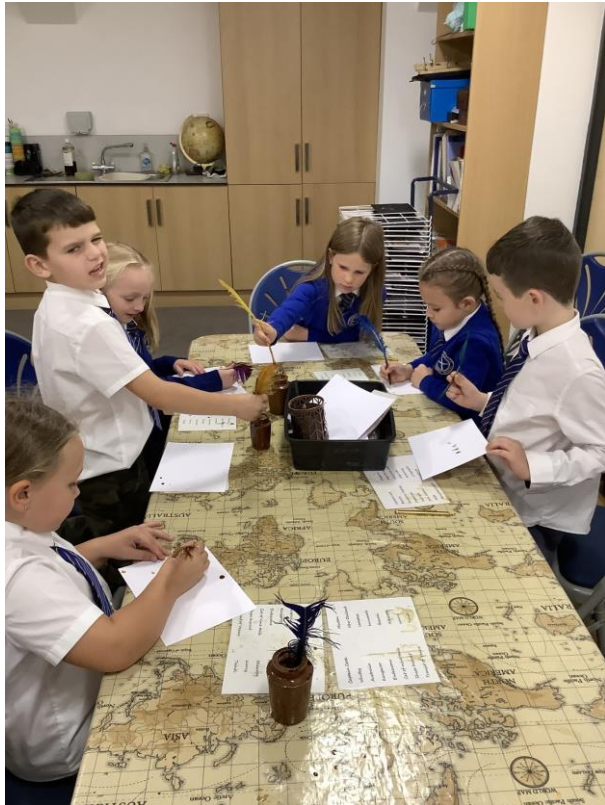
























## KEY DATES



*Key Dates*

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER



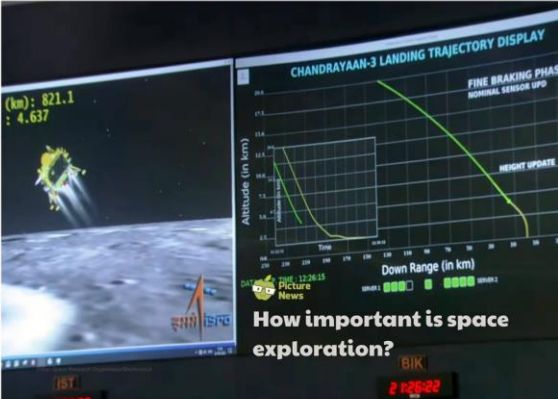
*3 - And Finally...enjoy the weekend!*

# Primary Picture News Resource England Collective Worship - 25th September - Race to the Moon

**What's happening in the news this week?** 



**Let's have a look at this week's poster!** **25th September - 1st October 2023**



**How important is space exploration?**

**Let's look at this week's story** 

In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send unmanned missions to the Moon. They were heading to the lunar South Pole, which is a less explored part of the Moon. Whilst Russia's shuttle crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole. The mission, named Chandrayaan-3, has been declared a success as the Vikram lander touched down at the end of August. The lunar South Pole is covered by shadow and largely unknown.

 Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



© Picture News 2023



## How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified

© Picture News 2022

## This week's story looks at events related to ...



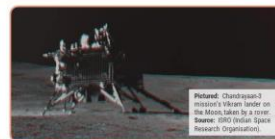
© Picture News 2022



Read through the information below about the recent attempts to reach the Moon's South Pole.

### Which countries have tried to reach the Moon's South Pole?

Japan, Israel, and most recently Russia, whose Luna-25 spacecraft crashed onto the surface of the Moon's South Pole, have all attempted to land there. India was the first country to successfully land at the South Pole of the Moon. It was also the first time India had landed a spacecraft on the Moon. The South Pole is a more challenging landing site than the other parts of the Moon, as there are many huge craters and deep trenches.



### Why do people want to travel to the Moon's South Pole?

The south polar region is important because scientists believe water is present in the area in the form of ice.

The hope is this water could someday support humans living on the Moon and help manufacture fuel for rockets launching from the Moon to Mars.

The water may also help scientists learn more about our own planet, Earth.



Share why you think it has taken until now to have a successful landing.

© Picture News 2022

Resource one



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about some well-known space explorers.

In December 2015, Tim Peake went on a 8-month space mission. He ran the London Marathon in space and became the first British astronaut to visit the International Space Station and conduct a spacewalk.

Pictured below: Tim Peake during his first spacewalk.



In 1961, Yuri Gagarin from Russia, was the first person ever to journey into outer space.  
Pictured above: A statue of Yuri Gagarin found in a park in Bucharest, Romania.

African American, Mae Jemison, was selected to be an astronaut by NASA in 1987. In 1992, she flew on the Space Shuttle Endeavour. Her role during the mission was science mission specialist. She completed a huge 44 experiments with her crew during the 7 days and 27 hours she was in space.

Pictured below: Mae Jemison.



Have you heard of any of these explorers before? Why do you think they might be well-known?

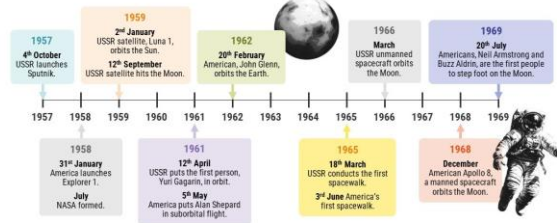
© Picture News 2023

Resource two



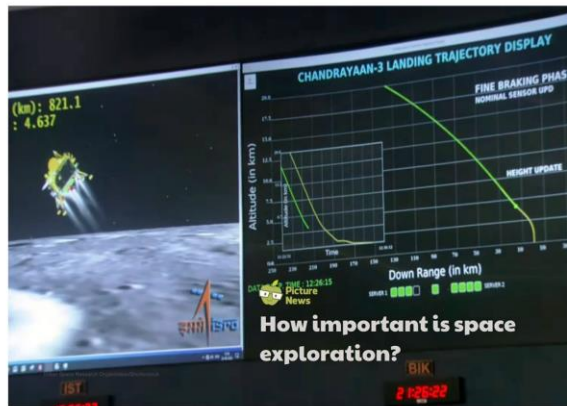
Look at the resource below, which shares some information about the space race.

After World War II, Russia (known as the USSR at the time) and America were two powerful countries, that were run in very different ways. Each nation was worried about how powerful the other one was becoming and so the Cold War broke out. It was not a war fought with armies and tanks; it was threats made between the countries, spying, inventing better technologies etc. Soon this rivalry moved to space. Both Russia and America believed whoever controlled space would be able to influence the world, and so the space race began.



When do you think Russia was leading in the space race and when do you think America was?

© Picture News 2023



## Reflection

Understanding more about the universe beyond our planet can help us to learn more about our own planet, and help advances in technology.

© Picture News 2023



## Individual Liberty

Exploring space can be exciting and helps us to learn more about the universe. We have a responsibility to consider the impact space exploration may have and manage any risks involved.

© Picnic News 2022

## Protected Characteristics

People from many different nations have been involved in space exploration. If we have the education, training and skills to explore space then our colour or nationality should never be the reason we cannot.



© Picnic News 2022

## UN Rights of a Child

We all have the right to get information about space exploration from the internet, radio, television, newspapers, books and other sources.



© Picnic News 2022

## Useful vocabulary

**Declared**  
Announce or state something openly or formally.  
The mission, named Chandrayaan-3, has been **declared** a success as the Vikram **lander** touched down at the end of August.

**Exploration**  
The action of travelling through a new or unfamiliar area to learn more about it.  
How important is space **exploration**?

**Lander**  
A spacecraft designed to land on a planet or moon.  
The mission, named Chandrayaan-3, has been declared a success as the Vikram **lander** touched down at the end of August.

**Manufacture**  
To make something in large quantities, usually in a factory.  
The hope is this water could someday support humans living on the Moon and help **manufacture** fuel for rockets launching from the Moon to Mars.

**Shuttle**  
A vehicle or aircraft that travels regularly between two places.  
Whilst Russia's **shuttle** crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole.

**Unmanned**  
Not having or needing a crew or staff.  
In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send **unmanned** missions to the Moon.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

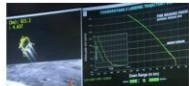
© Picnic News 2022



# Collective worship



Bible Link: Genesis 1:16-18  
 Christian Value: Joy  
 Theme: Exciting exploration



## Pupil involvement

You will need a compass, a magnifying glass, a torch, a map, a satellite picture of the Moon.  
 Think about the world. There are many places we have never visited before that would be wonderful and exciting to explore. Exploring is when we travel through an unfamiliar place to learn more about it.  
 Show the objects. Some of these may be useful for exploring. Think about which might be useful when exploring a cave, a mountain, a coral reef, a city centre, a rainforest. Ask for some volunteers to come to the front, choose an object and explain where they would use it to help them explore.  
 Some places in the universe have been explored by very few people and it is likely there are places that are still waiting to be discovered.

## Pupil talk

- Do you enjoy exploring or do you prefer visiting places that are familiar to you?
- Is there a place in the world, or even the universe, that you would like to explore? Where and why?
- Would you like to explore the Moon or other parts of space?
- How do you think it might feel to discover somewhere nobody has ever been before?

## Think

In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send unmanned missions to the Moon. They were heading to the lunar South Pole, which is a less explored part of the Moon. While Russia's shuttle crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole. The mission, named Chandrayaan-2, has been declared a success as the Vikram lander touched down at the end of August. The lunar South Pole is covered by shadow and largely unknown.  
 God created the universe and everything in it, including the Moon. There are many parts of God's universe to explore and discover, which makes us wonder even more about the power and majesty of the Creator.

## Invitation prayer

Dear God,  
 Thank you for creating the universe and everything in it. Thank you that there are so many wonderful and beautiful places for us to explore and enjoy. Help us to care for all creation, Amen.

## Key stage 1 class discussion

- What do you know about space? Can you name any of the planets?
- Have you seen the Moon in the sky? What does it look like? What else have you seen in the night sky?
- Have you ever wanted to visit the Moon?

## Key stage 2 class discussion

- What do you think are the benefits of exploring and discovering new places? Are there any disadvantages?
- Can you name any famous explorers from the past? Where did they explore? What did they learn?
- How do you think exploration has shaped us and the world we live in today?

## Worship song

He's got the whole world



© Picture News 2023

## Picture News

### How important is space exploration?

In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send unmanned missions to the Moon. They were heading to the lunar South Pole, which is a less explored part of the Moon. While Russia's shuttle crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole. The mission, named Chandrayaan-2, has been declared a success as the Vikram lander touched down at the end of August. The lunar South Pole is covered by shadow and largely unknown.

Listen Think Share

- Look at this week's poster image and share your initial thoughts as to what the story may be about. Discuss how the team in India might have felt about the news of the successful landing after many unsuccessful attempts and years of planning.
- The first successful Moon landing with astronauts was 54 years ago, and it has been 51 years since anyone else has walked on the Moon. Do you think it has taken off for people to go there or do you think it is better for the vehicles to go alone using robotic technology?
- Read through the information found on the assembly resource about the recent attempts to reach the Moon's South Pole. Share why you think it has taken off for us to have a successful landing.
- Watch this week's useful video, which explains more about the recent missions. In space exploration something that interests you?
- What do you think we can learn from exploring the Moon and space? Do you think it is a positive thing to do?

### Reflection

Understanding more about the universe beyond our planet can help us to learn more about our own planet, and help advance its technology.

## Picture News

### KS1 focus Who are some of the most well-known space explorers?

Listen Think Share

- Write 'explorer' on the board. Have you heard of this before? What do you think an explorer is?
- An explorer is a person who travels through a new or unfamiliar area so they can learn more about it. They explore the people who have visited space are explorers. Do you know the names of any space explorers?
- Look at resource 1, which shares information about some well-known space explorers. Have you heard of any of these explorers before? Why do you think they might be well-known?
- The three people on resource 1 are all astronauts and have been into space. Do you think you have to visit space to be a space explorer? Is it possible to explore space on Earth? Think about how this week's story is all about using robotic technology to explore the Moon!
- Share anything else you know about space and space exploration. Do you think you would enjoy exploring space? Discuss how travelling in space might feel. Exciting, terrifying, new-wonderful?
- Have you ever travelled through a new or unfamiliar place on Earth? If so, does this make you an explorer? Do you enjoy exploring? Does everyone feel the same way?

### Reflection

The first ever person travelled through space in 1961. Since then, many other people have explored space, helping us to learn more about it.

## Picture News

### KS2 focus What was the original space race?

Listen Think Share

- Write 'space race' on the board. Have you heard of the space race before? If not, have there anything you know, if you haven't, what do you think it might be?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about the space race. When do you think Russia was leading in the space race and when do you think America was?
- Discuss how the two powerful countries racing to control space impacted space exploration. Do you think because it was a race, technology advances were made more quickly? What? Consider resources, time and money invested into it.
- Many people before the space race ended in 1969, when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the Moon. Do you agree with that? Would you say America were the winners? Why?
- Space travel and exploration has continued since the space race. This has led to a greater understanding of the world, the environment, weather and technologies. How do you think space exploration may impact our future?
- Have you heard of the private companies SpaceX, Virgin Galactic or Blue Origin? What do you know about them?
- Each of these companies is trying to make space tourism a reality. How important do you think it is to be the first to achieve that?

### Reflection

The space race between Russia and America saw many incredible discoveries, advances and achievements that impacted humankind.

## Picture News

### KS2 follow-up ideas

#### Option 1

- Days, months, years and seasons are all periods of time that are linked to the movement of the Earth around the Sun and the movement of the Moon around the Earth.
- Can you name the seasons?
  - What month were you born in? What season is it?
  - How many days are there in a month? Can you name each month and the number of days it has?
  - How many months are in a year?
  - How many days are there in a year?
  - What is a leap year? Can you explain why there is a leap year?

#### Option 2

- Use this opportunity to explore the Moon and its movements relative to the Earth.
- Can you observe the Moon each evening and make a record of what it looks like?
  - How would you describe the shape of the Moon each evening?
  - When does the Moon rise? Why?
  - The Moon does not produce its own light. We can see it because it reflects the light from the Sun. The Moon orbits the Earth and as this happens, the appearance of the Moon changes when we look at it. It appears to be a different shape as different parts of it are illuminated. Challenge - find out about a later month, how long it lasts and the Moon phases.



## Picture News

### KS1 follow-up ideas

#### Option 1

- Imagine you are exploring a place for the very first time. It might be somewhere in space or a hidden part of Earth you've never discovered.
- Where is it?
  - Who is with you?
  - What are you wearing? Do you have any items with you?
  - What can you see, hear, smell?
  - Have you found anything interesting?
  - Have you discovered something new?
  - How do you feel?
- Use pictures, words and/or sentences to describe your place.

#### Option 2

- Create a rocket picture, blasting off into space. Think about:
- What shape will your rocket be?
  - What colour will it be?
  - Will you use paint, crayons, chalk, pastels or different materials to make your rocket?
  - Will it be blasting off into the night sky or will the Sun be there?

Use the rocket images below or others found online to help inspire your rocket art!



## Picture News

### This week's useful websites

This week's news story  
[www.space.com/india-chandrayaan-3-global-moon-race](http://www.space.com/india-chandrayaan-3-global-moon-race)

This week's useful video  
 Mission to the Moon's South Pole  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2-CVM0R0JM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2-CVM0R0JM)

This week's Virtual Picture News  
[www.picturenews.co.uk/discovers](http://www.picturenews.co.uk/discovers)

### This week's vocabulary

- Autonomous**  
 A vehicle or state something openly or formally.  
 The mission, named Chandrayaan-2, has been **autonomous** a success as the Vikram lander touched down at the end of August.
- Diplomatic**  
 The action of travelling through a new or unfamiliar area to learn more about it.  
 How important is space exploration?
- Lander**  
 A spacecraft designed to land on a planet or moon.  
 The mission, named Chandrayaan-2, has been declared a success as the Vikram **lander** touched down at the end of August.
- Autonomous**  
 To make something or large quantities, usually in a factory. The hope is to be robot **autonomous** support humans launching from the Moon to Mars.
- Regular**  
 A vehicle or aircraft that travels regularly between two places.  
 While Russia's shuttle crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole.
- Unmanned**  
 Not having or needing a crew or staff.  
 In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send **unmanned** missions to the Moon.

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**  
YOUR WEEKLY NEWS PAPER

**The Best Place to Look for Life in Our Galaxy**



Picture: The astronomical image is credited to NASA/JPL-Caltech/ESA/Hubble Space Telescope. Source: NASA Hubble Telescope Twitter page.

NASA has confirmed that they have identified an ocean world with an atmosphere, 120 light years away from Earth in the constellation Leo. Experts say that this could be the best place to look for life in our galaxy. Scientists, working with the James Webb Space Telescope, identified a planet that may contain both a protective atmosphere and a surface covered entirely by oceans. The world's most powerful space telescope has detected exoplanet K2-18 b, which is eight times the size of Earth and has an atmosphere containing carbon dioxide and methane. Scientists are excited to have possibly identified a molecule called dimethyl sulphide (DMS) as found on Earth, this is only produced by life! The abundance of methane and carbon dioxide, and shortage of ammonia, support the hypothesis that there may be a water ocean underneath a hydrogen-rich atmosphere in K2-18 b. The bulk of the DMS in Earth's atmosphere is emitted from phytoplankton in marine environments, NASA said in a press release.



Picture: James Webb Space Telescope. Source: NASA Hubble Telescope Twitter page.

**Puffin Parade**

A collection of puffin sculptures has raised close to £100,000 at auction. The artworks were part of Guernsey's Puffin Parade, a community event held between April and August displaying 60 puffin sculptures. The 60 sculptures were constructed by the Philippines and then decorated locally by schoolchildren, artists, clubs and other community groups. The money raised from the auction will go to GSPCA, the parade's organisers, Autism Guernsey and other local charities. GSPCA Manager, Steve Byrne, said, "The Guernsey Puffin Parade has been such an incredible event. There are so many to thank and despite being a long day from getting them all in place to the auction we really couldn't believe how amazingly we have been supported. Last year's Golden Guernsey Coast Trail raised more than £70,000 with one particular goat sculpture selling for over £10,000! Do you have any ideas for Guernsey's next sculpture community event?"



Picture: Some of the puffin sculptures. Source: GSPCA Twitter page.

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss) © Picture News 2023

**Youth Conservation Success Story**

As part of International Youth Day, a youth conservation success story is being celebrated as 1.2 million kg of plastic waste has been removed from Indonesian Rivers. Sungai Watch is an environmental organisation on a mission to stop plastic from going into the ocean. Sibings Gary, Kelly and Sam Bonehepha founded the charity in 2020, which aims to collect waste from rivers before it can enter the ocean. They have designed simple, effective waste barriers which can be installed across rivers when they are alerted by the public to problem areas. The team now consists of 50 passionate river warriors, working every day in Bali, Indonesia. Once the barriers are installed and the rubbish collected, it is then sorted and upcycled. They state on their website, "We have created a scalable approach to tackling plastic pollution. We are on a mission to install 1,000 barriers throughout Indonesia." Sam Bonehepha added, "I grew up in Indonesia and saw that plastic pollution was getting worse and worse throughout the years. I think that's the beauty of being an entrepreneur and fighting an issue like plastic pollution, where new challenges and variables are always presented to you. This has been a true life school for us."



Picture: Sungai Watch team installing a river and collecting plastic in Bali. Source: Sungai Watch Twitter page.

**Last week's topic: Should life jackets be compulsory for all on open water?**

**News**

I think that it is a good idea for people under 12 that can't swim I can swim but I would put one on just in case.

I think that life jackets are very important because they save lives thousands and thousands of people. We should respect the river members too.

**Alfred**

Personally, I think life jackets should be compulsory to all for safety reasons. Without one, anything bad could happen, and a life jacket could protect the person.

**Jayden**

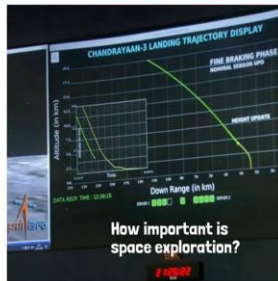
Let us know what you think about this week's news?

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss) [help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk) [@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

Picture News Ltd, Colket Lane, Bishop Thornton, Hemingbays, North Yorkshire, HG3 3LB

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss) © Picture News 2023

## TAKEHOME



## In the news this week

In recent weeks, both India and Russia's space agencies have tried to send unmanned missions to the Moon. They were heading to the lunar South Pole, which is a less explored part of the Moon. What Russia's shuttle crashed into the Moon's surface after spinning out of control, India has become the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole. The mission, named Chandrayaan 3, has been declared a success as the Vikram lander touched down at the end of August. The lunar South Pole is covered by shadow and largely unknown.

### Things to talk about at home...

- Share your thoughts on the recent competition for countries to reach the Moon's South Pole.
- Is space exploration something that interests you? What do you think we can learn from exploring space?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



© Picture News 2023



## Contact Us



*If you would like to contact us about anything in the newsletter or need an additional conversation then please don't hesitate to catch me outside on the yard or through making an appointment at the office.*

### Safeguarding

The school safeguarding policy is on the website and a paper version can also be requested from the office. Safeguarding is at the heart of all we do at Prior's Mill CE Primary School.

### Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School

Clifton Avenue, Billingham. Stockton-on-Tees, TS22 5BX

Tel: 01642 650 426

Email: [office@priorsmill.org.uk](mailto:office@priorsmill.org.uk)

Visit us on the web at <https://priorsmill.org.uk/>

### School Vision

As an inclusive Church of England primary school, we welcome children and families of all faiths and none to be part of our school family which has a distinctly Christian character and ethos. At Prior's

Mill, we encourage everyone to discover, flourish and grow in their talents, nurturing their God given gifts and potential. We work with passion to foster a love of learning, a love of community and personal resilience. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we are a school where kindness, forgiveness, respect and honesty underpin our words and actions.

**Biblical Narrative - The Parable of The Mustard Seed – Mark 4:30-32 (NIV)**

“What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

**School Values**

We give our best - We are kind - We are honest - We are respectful - We forgive