

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

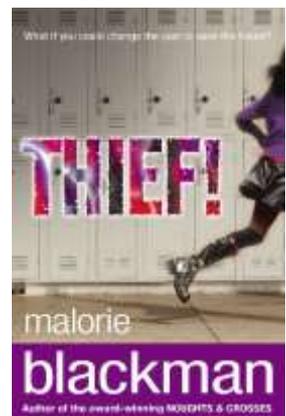
Welcome to Blackman class! I hope you have all had a lovely, fun-filled Summer break. I am very excited to be starting a new academic year, with lots of exciting opportunities planned for the children.

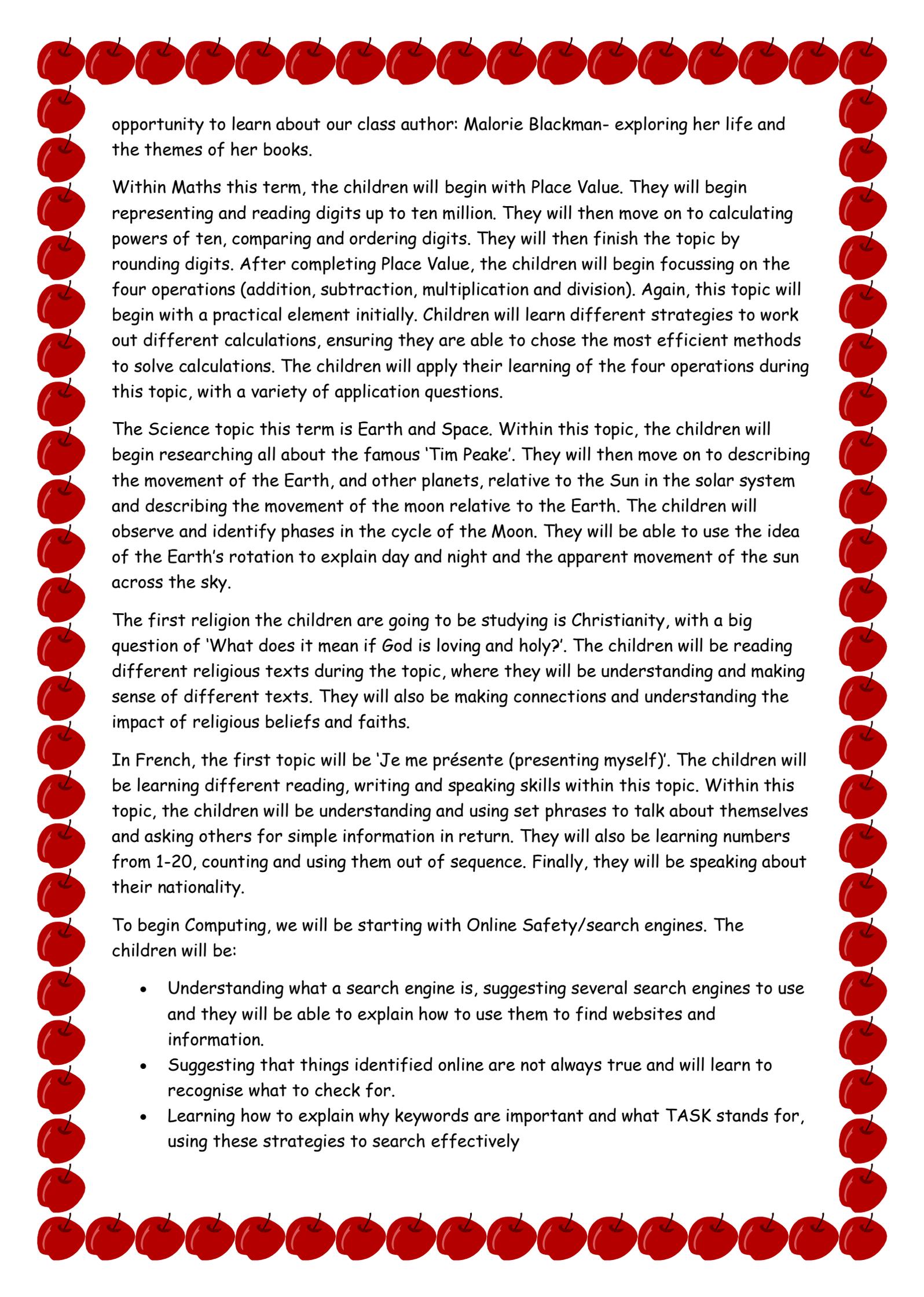
During this year, our big question for our Connections work is 'Can one person change the world forever?'. The first person the children are going to be studying, in order to help answer the question, is 'Mahatma Gandhi'. Within Geography, the children will be locating the world's countries and major cities, using maps, to focus on Asia. In History, the children will be creating timelines to show important events and changes in the British Empire, describing main changes in a period of history. They will also be making comparisons and contrasts between historical periods and understanding that no single course of evidence gives a full answer to a question about the past. For our Art work this term, the focus will be on Diwali. The children will be experimenting with chalk and different media to create a 'Diwali inspired' artwork to celebrate the festival.



To link in with our Connections work, our first writing piece will be biography writing, based on Gandhi. The children will begin exploring different examples of biographies. As inspiration, we will be using the inspirational book of 'Little People BIG DREAMS Mahatma Gandhi'. Along our writing journey, the children will be learning how to effectively use different forms of parenthesis, past tense and relative clauses. The children will gain a good understanding of the purpose of a biography and will be writing to inform other members of our school.

Malorie Blackman's book 'Thief' is going to be our first class-read this term. The book will be used during our class-reading sessions, when we are reading for pleasure, as well as our reading lessons. There will be four reading lessons a week: pre-reading, reading, group-reading and an application lesson. The children will be focussing on a different skill each session: Vocabulary, Inference, Predicting, Explaining, Retrieval, Summarising and Decoding and Fluency. During this book focus, the children will have the





opportunity to learn about our class author: Malorie Blackman- exploring her life and the themes of her books.

Within Maths this term, the children will begin with Place Value. They will begin representing and reading digits up to ten million. They will then move on to calculating powers of ten, comparing and ordering digits. They will then finish the topic by rounding digits. After completing Place Value, the children will begin focussing on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Again, this topic will begin with a practical element initially. Children will learn different strategies to work out different calculations, ensuring they are able to chose the most efficient methods to solve calculations. The children will apply their learning of the four operations during this topic, with a variety of application questions.

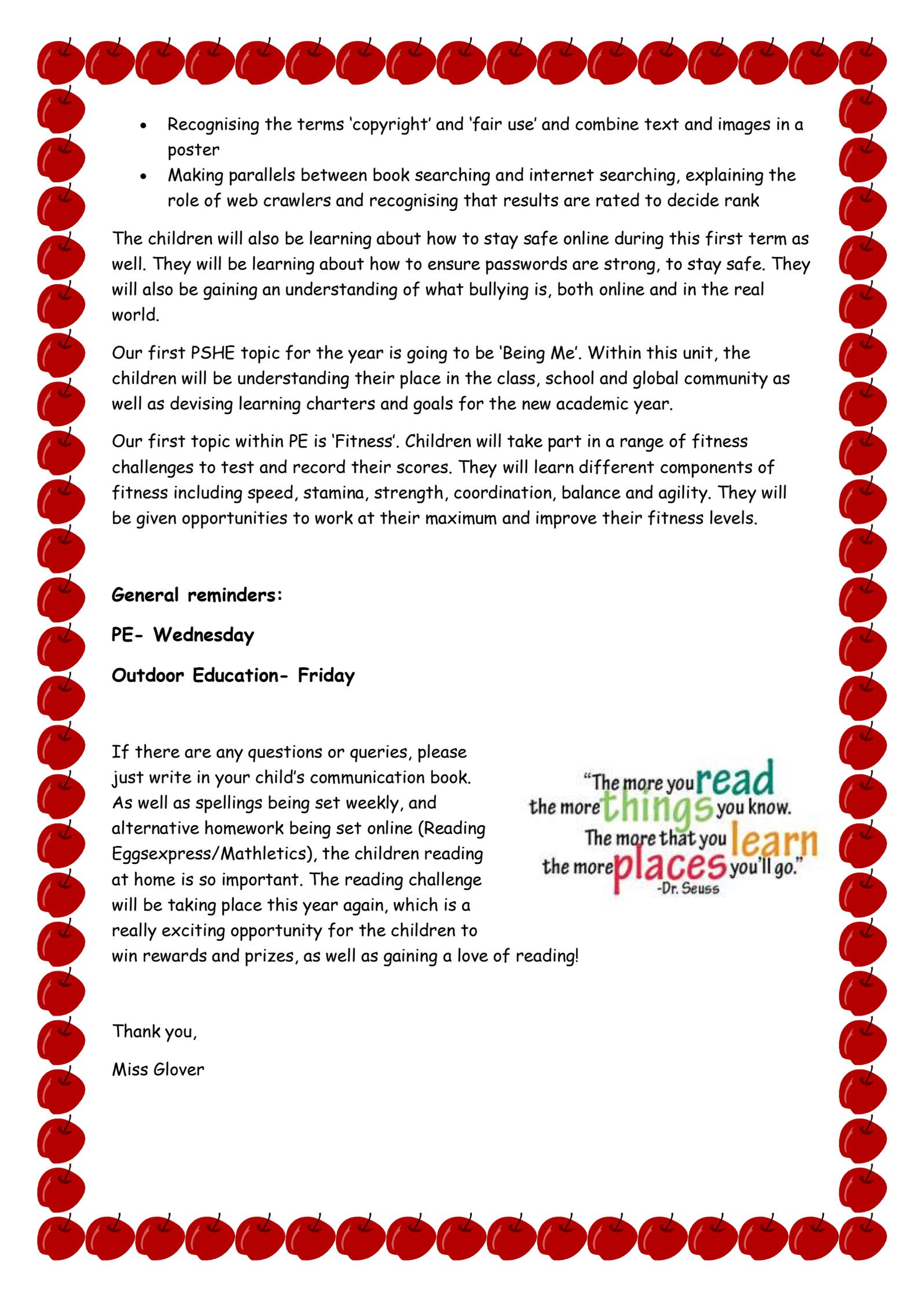
The Science topic this term is Earth and Space. Within this topic, the children will begin researching all about the famous 'Tim Peake'. They will then move on to describing the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system and describing the movement of the moon relative to the Earth. The children will observe and identify phases in the cycle of the Moon. They will be able to use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

The first religion the children are going to be studying is Christianity, with a big question of 'What does it mean if God is loving and holy?'. The children will be reading different religious texts during the topic, where they will be understanding and making sense of different texts. They will also be making connections and understanding the impact of religious beliefs and faiths.

In French, the first topic will be 'Je me présente (presenting myself)'. The children will be learning different reading, writing and speaking skills within this topic. Within this topic, the children will be understanding and using set phrases to talk about themselves and asking others for simple information in return. They will also be learning numbers from 1-20, counting and using them out of sequence. Finally, they will be speaking about their nationality.

To begin Computing, we will be starting with Online Safety/search engines. The children will be:

- Understanding what a search engine is, suggesting several search engines to use and they will be able to explain how to use them to find websites and information.
- Suggesting that things identified online are not always true and will learn to recognise what to check for.
- Learning how to explain why keywords are important and what TASK stands for, using these strategies to search effectively

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- Recognising the terms 'copyright' and 'fair use' and combine text and images in a poster
 - Making parallels between book searching and internet searching, explaining the role of web crawlers and recognising that results are rated to decide rank

The children will also be learning about how to stay safe online during this first term as well. They will be learning about how to ensure passwords are strong, to stay safe. They will also be gaining an understanding of what bullying is, both online and in the real world.

Our first PSHE topic for the year is going to be 'Being Me'. Within this unit, the children will be understanding their place in the class, school and global community as well as devising learning charters and goals for the new academic year.

Our first topic within PE is 'Fitness'. Children will take part in a range of fitness challenges to test and record their scores. They will learn different components of fitness including speed, stamina, strength, coordination, balance and agility. They will be given opportunities to work at their maximum and improve their fitness levels.

General reminders:

PE- Wednesday

Outdoor Education- Friday

If there are any questions or queries, please just write in your child's communication book. As well as spellings being set weekly, and alternative homework being set online (Reading Eggsexpress/Mathletics), the children reading at home is so important. The reading challenge will be taking place this year again, which is a really exciting opportunity for the children to win rewards and prizes, as well as gaining a love of reading!

Thank you,
Miss Glover

"The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss