

# Apple Class Newsletter

Autumn 2

24<sup>th</sup> November 2025



## News / Information

We want to say a big thank you for coming along to our Star Gazing evening last week. It was such a magical evening, and we loved seeing the children truly fascinated by the stars. I think the hot chocolate helped too! On Thursday we have the Bath Astronomers coming in, with their Inflatable Space Dome. It will be a wonderful immersive experience for the children, learning about our solar system together with Year 5. *(A polite reminder that this is at a cost of £4 – payment to made on Arbor)*

On Friday the children were treated to a rocket workshop with Catherine and Andrew, both ex-engineers, living in Batheaston. In the 1989 Catherine designed a satellite which entered space, staying there until the early 2000's. To see the children's faces as they launched their rockets, was sheer joy!

This week Louise and I are allocating roles for our Nativity Tableau performance – we will send details of this and costumes by the end of the week)

We would like to welcome Jayla, a Norland Nanny. She will be with us for 4 weeks and already has made a lovely impression on the children and staff.

## Phonics

**Phase 2** – this week we continue phase 2 in our phonics programme. The class will be introduced to 4 graphemes/digraphs (**sh th ng nk**)

The children will be introduced to a digraph this week (qu) they will learn the mantra 'A digraph is two letters one sound' Tricky words are words you cannot sound out – **she he of**

## What are we learning this week:

In Drawing Club, we are looking at the book 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jefferes (one of my favourite authors). The premise is that 'The Boy' finds an aeroplane in his cupboard (as you do!) and takes a trip to the Moon – there he meets and helps a Martian. We will be using junk materials to build our own rockets.

In maths we are focusing on the composition of 3, 4 and 5. The children are becoming more aware of the concept 'part, part, whole' where they are able to investigate the different parts of a number, that makes up a whole such as  $(2+2 / 1+3 = 4)$ . These are the building blocks to the children's understanding of what makes four 4 or the fiveness of five. Again, we will use a variety of resources and models for the children explore this concept within different contexts.

On Friday we are learning about the Sun and its importance to life on Planet Earth. In RE we will be learning about the Christian story of The Nativity – in preparation for our rehearsals and performance on the 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**Teacher  
Awards**

**Zoe & Raffy**

