

Thursday 16th May 2019

**Can Cale Green ‘STEAM’ into the future?**

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Dear Parents / Carers

Our final theme of the school year is a whole-school theme focussing on the exciting world of **s**cience, **t**echnology, **e**ngineering, **a**rt and maths – or ‘**STEAM**’!

**STEAM** education is about exploring, learning and discovering. This can involve making things, collecting data or information and experimenting with different things to see what the outcome is and to find solutions to problems.

**STEAM** education is very hands-on and skill-based and requires children to think imaginatively, be resilient, develop as communicators, learn from mistakes, ask questions and make links between subjects.

To begin the theme, the children will learn about the significance and importance of engineers in the past and consider why engineers are essential in the future. The children will explore inventions and future problems that need to be solved and consider: How does this affect me? My family? My friends? My town? My country? My world? In doing so, hope to inspire the next generation of engineers!

Over the nine week theme, the children will be using ‘**STEAM**’ to solve a variety of problems encountered in the real world. They will be considering how to connect places together in creative and stable ways, how to move objects across a space in practical ways using mechanical mechanisms, air, solar or wind power and also how to move objects digitally through computing, programming and sequencing activities. Each class will have their own specifically-tailored activities to help them solve these problems.

For the art and design element of ‘**STEAM**’, children across the school will participate in specialist art workshops, some led by ZARTs. Years 5 and 6 will also be involved in creating an art installation with a professional artist at the Museum of Science and Industry as part of the Manchester Arts Festival! All the children will create their own ‘**STEAM Journey’** board and use drawing techniques when designing prototypes and making plans.

A final, additional element that will run as a thread of learning throughout the school during theme 4 will be the enquiry, ***How can a small change ‘future-proof’ the Earth?*** This enquiry will be based on the idea of reducing the use of plastic in school and recycling plastic products. Children will have the opportunity to investigate the problem, write persuasively and design questionnaires, use maths and science to survey and cost out solutions so that they gain a deeper understanding of the plastic pollution problem facing the world today. All classes across the school will also be reusing and recycling plastic to create animals and plants that will form a whole-school ‘coral reef installation’ in the hall to highlighting this issue further! Parents and carers will be invited into school to see this work later in the term.

The staff have worked together, along with partners such as the Museum of Science and Industry and ZArts, to plan this exciting theme and there are lots of enrichment and engagement activities planned to support the children’s learning and development of new knowledge and skills.

If you feel that your job or skills would be useful in helping to support the children’s learning then please do not hesitate to contact school.

In this way our school community can really put **‘Learning and Living Together’** at the heart of our curriculum.

Yours sincerely

D.Marshall

Headteacher

