

Mighty Oaks Term 3 2021-22

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to term 3, which is typically the coldest time of year, but one of the most productive for learning. We have another block of swimming lessons this term, which I'm sure the children are looking forward to, so our PE day has changed to Friday.

This is also the time of year when we begin to make sure that our year 6 pupils have the best preparation to do themselves justice in the SATs. They will all be given supporting books and there will be a weekly relaxed session after school which will provide an opportunity to practise questions and talk about any areas they are unsure about - accompanied by drinks and biscuits.

As part of our Action Research project, we will be looking at positive learning behaviours:

- Concentrate be cooperative be curious have a go use your imagination
- don't give up keep improving enjoy learning

I will be working with the children to further understand these and promote them in our classroom and eventually throughout the school. The aim is that they become more aware of these behaviours in themselves and thus become more effective independent learners.

Mathematics

Fractions - continued

Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers Multiplying fractions by an integer. Calculate fractions of an amount

Year 6 - in addition will divide fractions by an integer and use a fraction as an operator

Decimal numbers

The value of digits to 2 decimal places
The link between fractions and decimals
Ordering decimal numbers
Rounding decimals
Calculating with decimals

Percentages

Understand percentages and the link with fractions and decimals.

Calculate percentages of amounts (for year 6 also calculate whole amounts where the percentage is given)

Year 5

Find the area and perimeter of shapes

Year

Algebra. Year 6 will also continue with Mrs. Worthington weekly on properties of shape and measures.

English

Our writing focus for the first part of the term will be recounts. We will be working together on our own version of the diary of Captain Robert Falcon Scott on his failed attempt to reach the South Pole before working independently to produce a similar piece of writing based on Ernest Shackleton's 'Endurance' expedition. I'm sure that the children will love learning about these extraordinary adventurers whilst also developing their writing skills.

We will then go on to produce a narrative based on the short film 'One Small Step' about a girl who dreams of becoming an astronaut.

Our key grammar and punctuation skills for term 3 are:

- Indicate degrees of possibility through the use of adverbs e.g. perhaps, possibly, surely
- Use the passive voice to create empathy, suspense or formality
- Use relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose and that

We will also be working on developing our spelling and handwriting skills through weekly lessons/daily tasks. The spelling pattern for each week will provided for homework and set as practice on spelling shed.

Through targeted comprehension tasks, we will work on making conclusions based on information retrieved from different places in the text and identifying fact and opinion.





Science 'Material World - part 2'.

This term, we continue our work on materials by exploring changes that are not reversible, such as those caused by heating and by chemical reactions. As part of this learning, pupils will take part in practical activities such as firing a 'rocket' using the reaction between bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, making 'flubber' worms and casting shapes out of plaster of Paris, observing the signs that a permanent change has taken place. For the last few weeks of term, we will look at how forensic evidence such as fingerprinting, chromatography and fibres of clothing can be used to solve crimes. Please see the knowledge organiser for key learning.

Topic –Geography - How will our world look in the future?

This topic focusses on the move towards renewable energy and environmentally -friendly construction of homes. We will learn about how electricity is generated, looking at changes in the energy sources used over the last 70 years. We will briefly look at weather patterns in order to understand what is meant by climate and look at some of the projects to reduce carbon emissions before thinking about our view of what the world will be like in the future.

R.S.H.E

Valuing difference

We begin by looking at positive learning behaviours and attitudes before our unit on valuing differences, linked to British values.. We will consider cultural norms in different parts of the world, explore the benefits of living in a diverse society and consider the meaning of 'prejudice' and 'stereotype' and ways of challenging these

Art

Our Art unit this term focuses on sculpture. We will be exploring the work of famous sculptors such as Henry Moore, Alberto Giacometti and Auguste Rodin. We will take inspiration from these sculptors to create our own pieces using a range of materials including salt dough and air-drying clay. Our main outcome will be a realistic self-portrait made of clay that features etchings and careful joining work between more than one piece of clay.

P.E

Swimming Dance

R.E.

What does it mean if God is holy and loving?

In this unit, we look at what Christians believe about God and explore evidence from biblical texts that support these beliefs. We will also look at the way that churches (particularly cathedrals) have been built to support these beliefs. We will also think about how Christian beliefs affect the way they lead their lives and what rules for living we would create ourselves.

Music

Composition Challenges

As part of a project with the London Sinfonietta, we will be exploring techniques for composition by taking part in a series of challenges including number and patterns, words and music and deep listening. We will spend the last couple of weeks singing and improvising with the folk song 'Old Joe Clark.

Computing

This term we will be using Espresso Coding to learn how computers use numbers to represent things such as how fast things are moving and we will learn how to use variables in more complex ways.

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