

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to another academic year.

We continue this year to be able to teach key stage 2 in two separate classes for many subjects – they will be together as a key stage for Music (Mrs. Davies and Miss Bevans), Art, DT, History, Geography, Computing (Miss Bevans) and PE (provided by Up and Under Sports).

I will be carrying out some assessments over the first couple of weeks to ensure that any gaps or strengths are identified– this will help me to plan the learning and any additional catch-up tasks.

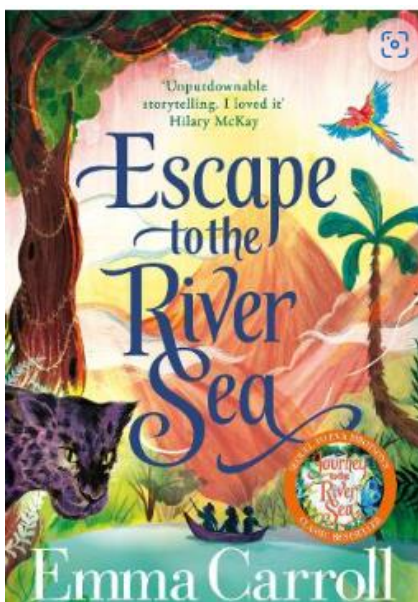
As usual, I will be encouraging our older pupils to take on roles of responsibility in the school and will talk to them during the first few weeks about their interests and ideas for this. This, alongside their learning experiences, should help to build the independence that will help them to succeed in the future.

Children do not have set 'seats' in Mighty Oaks. Positions will be changed weekly to allow them the opportunity to work with different learning partners. We are also continuing the practice of 'no hands up' where possible, which encourages more discussion between pupils and engagement from the whole class – pairs will be invited to share their responses to questions after thinking/talking time. We will also continue to devote time to helping pupils understand themselves as learners, recognising and practising good learning behaviours.

As always, I'm really looking forward to helping your lovely children with their learning. Please always feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns – the best way to do this is through the office.

I will be giving a general introduction to 'Life in Mighty Oaks' after school on Monday, and hope to see you there.

Mrs. Davies



Mathematics

Year 5

Roman numerals
Place value in numbers to 1,000,000
Partition, Compare and order numbers
Round numbers
Mental strategies for add and subtract
Add and subtract numbers with more than 4 digits
Use rounding to check answers
Use inverse operations
Multi-step addition and subtraction problems
Identify multiples and common multiples
Find factors and common factors
Identify prime, square and cube numbers

Year 6

Roman numerals – revision
Place value, compare and order numbers to 10 million.
Round numbers to any integer
Negative numbers
Add and subtract any numbers – formal method
Identify common factors and multiples.
Use rules of divisibility
Identify primes, squares and cubed numbers.
Multiply up to a 4 digit number by 2 digits
Solve problems with multiplication
Strategies for division
Use the order of operations
Mental calculations and reason from known facts

English

In reading, we will be using the acronym VIPERS to engage with texts. This term, most of these will be linked to our Amazon topic or to our class text, which will be 'Escape to the River Sea' by Emma Carroll.

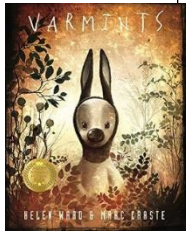
V: vocabulary I : Infer P: Predict E: Explain
R: Retrieve information S: Summarise

Our key grammar and punctuation skills for term 1 are:

1. Write with accurate use of all expected punctuation: full stops, capital letters, question marks, exclamation marks, commas in lists, apostrophes, speech marks, commas for clarity and to mark clauses.
2. Use hyphens to avoid ambiguity
3. Use expanded noun phrases across writing to convey complicated information concisely

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.

In writing, we will be beginning with narrative, based on the picture book 'Varmints' before going on to poetry Writing later in the term.



Science 'Let's get moving'.

This term's topic explores the physical science of forces and will involve lots of practical tasks, which will develop their ability to hypothesise, plan and conduct investigations, present results and draw conclusions.

We will learn about how force can be measured and about contact and non-contact forces such as friction, air resistance and gravity.

We will also be looking at the way in which forces can be changed by the use of simple mechanisms such as gears, levers and pulleys.

Geography

South America: What is life like in the Amazon?

Mighty Oaks will be learning about the Amazon region of South America. They will explore what the Amazon is, and where it is located; understand the Amazon's climate, and how the native animals are adapted to it; understand what life is like in the Amazon, and how it is changing and lastly, create a campaign which explains how the rainforest is being damaged, protected and why it is important.

R.S.H.E

Me and my relationships.

This unit explores ways of working collaboratively, through negotiation and compromise. We will also look at how to be positively assertive to resist unwanted peer pressure and how to respond positively to others, coping with the challenges of friendship.

R.E.

What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?

We will be exploring the guidance by which Muslims live their lives, considering 5 pillars of Islam (looking particularly at the Hajj as a religious pilgrimage) and the Qur'an and Hadith as sources of teaching. See the knowledge organiser for key facts and vocabulary.

Music – Whole class instrumental learning based on Calypso

We will be using Calypso music to look at rhythms and learn about staff notation so that we can compose and play simple pieces of music in this style.

French – I am learning French

In this unit the children will revise: ♦ Say 'hello' (formally and informally). ♦ Say their name. ♦ Ask how somebody is feeling and give a reply ♦ Say 'goodbye' and 'see you soon' ♦ know colours in French ♦ count in French

Art – Mega Materials

This term, Mighty Oaks will be using a variety of materials to create sculptures inspired by a range of artists. They will be looking at using more complex techniques to shape and join materials, such as carving and modelling wire, and also look at how artists use art to convey messages through the choices they make.

Computing – online safety and networks

We will be focusing on two areas of computing this term. Firstly, they will be learning about elements of staying safe online such as the impacts sharing of digital content can have, how to maintain secure passwords and to make sure we are aware of appropriate and inappropriate content online. They will then explore online networks, focusing on what the internet consists of and what the future might hold.

PE

Swimming, handball and hockey.

Be like **Dave**

the 'keep improving' dog

Keep reviewing your work
Identify your best bits
Improve one thing first
Try to be better than last time
Don't compare yourself to others – only yourself!
Take small steps

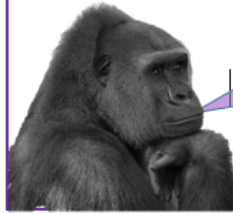


Keep improving

Be like **George**

the creative gorilla

Be creative
Let your imagination go
Think of new ideas and questions
Find ways to solve problems



Use your imagination

Be like **Gordon**

the "don't give up" goat

Work hard and try new strategies
Take a brain break and start again
Practise a lot and keep going.
Ask for help if you need it.



Don't give up

Be like **Maud**

the cooperative meerkat

Listen to others
Say when you don't understand
Be kind when you disagree
Explain things to help others.
Be tolerant



Co-operate

Be like **Olive**

the concentrating otter

Manage distractions
Get lost in the task
Break things down
Plan and think it through
Draw diagrams, jot down thoughts or things which help you think



Concentrate

Be like **Chris**

the curious cat

Ask questions and research
Notice things
Look for patterns and connections
Think of possible reasons
Ask 'What if...?'



Be curious

Be like **Minnie**

the 'have a go' monkey

Believe you can get better
Don't worry if it goes wrong
Learn from mistakes
Be excited to learn more things



Have a go