

Great Oaks: Curriculum Information Letter



TEACHER: Mrs Kretschmer & Mrs Whitby

P.E. LESSON: Friday

LSA: Mrs Howard

GAMES LESSON: Wednesday

HOME LEARNING: Given: Thursday Return: Thursday

READING HOMEWORK: Regular personal reading including reading with an adult. Please sign your child's Reading Record once a week (to be handed in every Monday).

Summer Curriculum

Topic: The Maya Civilization This term we are looking at the fascinating civilization of Mesoamerica. We shall be looking at who they were, when they lived and how historians use artefacts to discover information about them. We shall also explore their unique numbering system, their writing and also the religious beliefs of the Maya.

English	Our initial focus is based around the wonderful adventure story 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell and we will then move on to look at other genres, including review writing and poetry. SPaG will be taught, practised and applied in contexts regularly.
Mathematics	We will continue with our practice of number skills, becoming adept at choosing the correct operation to solve multi-step problems. We will consolidate last term's learning, and cover any areas of learning in readiness for the end of Year 6. We will also practise SATs style questions weekly to become confident with the different thinking skills and knowledge required to prepare us for the next stage of our learning journey.
Science	Our topic for this half term will be Electricity, where we will be building on our understanding of series circuits and beginning to use recognised symbols in circuit diagrams. We will then be exploring inheritance, variation and adaptation to describe how living things have evolved over time and investigating what we can learn from fossils.
Computing	Linking in with Design & Technology and also History, we shall be looking at Computer Aided Design and the use of digital media for Podcasts and Stop Animation.
Religious Education	Our learning question for this term is 'Can we know what God is like?' Within this unit, we explore how different faiths reveal their understanding of God and how that impacts our views, irrespective of our individual beliefs.
Physical Education	Two hours of PE weekly will be split equally between Games with James and PE. Games will be taught by a PE specialist. We will seek to spend as much time in nature as possible so please ensure that wellies and weather-appropriate clothing are in school every day.
Art – D.T.	In the first half of the term, we will continue to develop ideas on a shelter and use Computer Aided Design to bring the concepts to life. We will then be linking a range of Art activities to our topic of the Maya Civilization. In the second half, we hope to be doing Food Technology, again linked to the Maya.
Music	During the term our musical focus will be the children performing together, using Music Express, and the end of year Production as our resource and inspiration..
French	The children will be practising the vocabulary for shopping in France, focusing on clothes, food and French money. This will involve role plays with simple dialogue.
Personal, Social and Health Education	In our PSHE lessons, we will continue to explore influences and attitudes towards money, and how to manage our money effectively to avoid financial risks. We will also be investigating the negative impact of drugs, alcohol and smoking upon our wellbeing and, as part of our 'Growing and Changing' topic, different kinds of relationships and human reproduction. Towards the end of term, we will be spending time preparing the children for their transition into secondary school and the changes they can expect.

Possible family visits/ activities which would enrich your child's learning:

- Visit the British Museum and learn more about the Maya and other Mesoamerican civilizations.
- Visit the Tring Natural History Museum
- Watch out for any relevant documentaries or TV programmes
- Look online for fun websites about our Science or History topic aimed at KS2 pupils

How to support your child:

Practical ways to support your child's learning at this crucial stage in their time at Primary School:

- Please encourage your child to read daily. Ask their opinions about the books; encourage analytical thought and the collection of adventurous vocabulary. Read newspapers together
- Watch relevant TV documentaries to aid language development. Subtitles also aid the reading skills of children.
- Support your child in their home learning tasks: you could ask them to explain concepts or encourage independent research. Keep mental calculation skills sharp with on the spot times table questions. Help your child learn their weekly spellings.