



MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Headteacher: M.Barnes

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Dear Parents/Guardians

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL! I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break with your children. They certainly all appear to have had fun during their holiday time. I had a good rest and return with renewed vigour ready for another exciting term teaching Year 6.

Below is an outline of what we hope to cover this term:

Science: Our topic this term is called "Creatures" and is a science based topic. We will be looking at living things and their environment, particularly focussing on adaptation and interdependence. Our first day kicked us off with a science based day where the children were grouped and asked to investigate animals living in any world habitat of their choice, working on displaying food chains and/or webs and explaining how the animals have adapted to suit their particular environment. We all learnt something new, especially when Mrs Skelt arrived, science specialist from Midhurst Rother College, to help us in the afternoon. It proved to be an exciting and enjoyable start with all of your children working well in small groups, to achieve a set task. The buzz between the classroom, library and ICT suite showed an outstanding level of interest which I will endeavour to maintain throughout the term. After half term we will be looking at micro-organisms, studying germs and bacteria, both good and bad - hopefully to include a trip to the science labs at MRC.

Geography: links to science by studying the climates of different habitats and their often fragile existence. Later in the term we will focus on our rubbish, linked to the micro organisms which naturally decay our waste.

Art: this topic will inevitably lend itself to a variety of artwork. I hope to include colour mixing to create a new leaf (to turn over for New Year☺) followed by detailed observational drawings and paintings of feathers. We also hope to create our own new species of animal, based loosely on the Flanimal books, to encourage more imaginative work. Clay will also be used as part of our Literacy work to explore descriptive writing and imagery.

DT: evaluate, design and make our own dream catchers.

Music: appreciation of animal music such as Carnival of the Animals and Peter & the Wolf leading to small group compositions of our own linked to an animal of choice. We are also taking part in a "BIG SING" event to be held at the MRC for all Year 6's across the Rother Valley area on Friday 21st January.

PE: continuing with climbing for Group 2 every Friday starting next week, 14th January, for 4 weeks. We will walk whatever the weather so PLEASE remind your children to bring a coat as well as suitable PE kit on that day. Games lessons have now moved to a

Wednesday with B&HA coaches. After half term we will be back to normal with a gym or dance lesson on a Monday. The Tag Rugby festival is still set for February 2nd - more details to follow.

RE/PSHE: will be topic based linked to themes which arise from our class book "Skellig". Student of the week has been a huge success and will continue as part of our PSHE until all children have been pulled from the hat. For your information I will be teaching sex education to Year 6 during this term - more details will follow before this begins, I aim to start 2 weeks or so before half term.

ICT: threads through most of what we do now in school, but we will focus on effective searching of the Internet, learning how to refine our searches. We will also use Flexi tree to aid classification in science, PowerPoint to produce a topic related multimedia presentation and, if time, follow up the children's desire to do more animation work.

Literacy and Maths continues to be taught daily. Literacy will be predominantly linked to our topic with a poetry competition between the Rother Valley Schools via Moodle organised which we are part of, as well as links to a fantastic book called "Skellig" by David Almond that I have just started reading to the class. There is certainly no shortage of interesting and exciting work to do!

This is also the term of our residential trip which we will try to keep calm about until nearer the time. However it is VERY exciting! French lessons will hopefully include enough conversation to enable us to get by when we are out and about. Collective passports are back and we are currently awaiting confirmation of our activities - once this is with us we will arrange a meeting for parents and your children to go over kit, share some photos, go over do's and don'ts and answer any questions you may have.

I have attached a list of dates for the term and a little beyond, with any luck your children have these in their homework diary but you may never get to see that!

Please do not hesitate to come in and see me at any time if you have any concerns or worries regarding your children and school. I am available every morning except Monday and every afternoon except Tuesday.

Thanking you as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Sally Clarke

Year 6 diary dates

Date	Event
Friday 7 th January	Group 1 Last Climb 11.15 - 12.15 MRC
Friday 14 th January	Group 2 Climb 11.15 - 12.15 MRC
Friday 21 st January	BIG SING event MRC 9.30 - 11.30 MRC Group 2 Climb (Time to be confirmed) MRC
Wednesday 26 th January	Year 5/6 Cross Country event 10 - 12 Cowdray Ruins - children invited to attend by Mrs Alden - letters to follow
Friday 28 th February	Group 2 Climb 11.15 - 12.15 MRC
Wednesday 2 nd February	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby festival Cowdray 10 - 12
Friday 4 th February	Group 2 Last Climb 11.15 - 12.15 MRC
Monday 7 th February	Moodle Poetry event Petworth 10 - 1.30 PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED
Friday 18 th February	Half term
<i>Tuesday 22nd February during half term</i>	<i>G&T PE day at MRC Riversite 10 - 3</i>
Monday 7 th March	Parents Evening 4 - 7pm
Tuesday 8 th March	Parents Evening 5 - 8pm
Friday 25 th March	"Orchestra Day" held at MRC for Year 6 children who learn a musical instrument. More details to follow.
Monday 28 th March	Leave for France!
Friday 1 st April	Return from France ☺
Tuesday 5 th April	M&M theatre group performs to whole school
Friday 8 th April	Break up
Tuesday 26 th April	INSET DAY
Wednesday 27 th April	Children back to school.
Friday 29 th April	Royal Wedding
Monday 2 nd May	May day
Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May	KS2 SAT's