

MIGHTY METALS

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term, we hope you had a wonderful break.

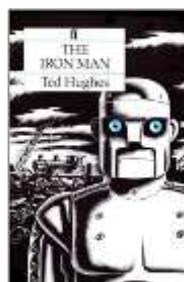
In Oak Class this half term we will become engineers, scientists and makers of men (iron men, of course). The topic has a science and DT focus and we will be exploring the scientific world of forces and magnetism, metals and materials. Can you explain why magnets repel and attract? Can you make a penny look shiny and new or build a steel band from pots and pans? If you were a metal, which one would you be? Gold, a shimmering, precious and costly mineral? Or steel, that strong and useful alloy? Maybe you're iron, malleable and easy to shape, but ready to rust. Maybe you're not a metal at all, but a force to be reckoned with!



In literacy we will be writing recounts describing how we designed and constructed our own robots. The children will compose and rehearse sentences orally and use time connectives to build a varied and rich vocabulary.

Using what we learn about forces and magnets, the class will look at explanation texts before writing their own, using paragraphs to organise their writing.

They will also write instructions for playing their own magnetic travel games, using conjunctions and prepositions to extend their sentences. The children will edit and improve their writing before following the instructions to play each other's games.



A love for reading is vital for the children to flourish and explore all subjects. Reading text and learning how to answer comprehension questions will play an important part this term. At home please spend time enjoying a book with your child, a few minutes of reading a day soon adds up to an hour of reading! In Oak class the children will change their reading books every Monday but please bring reading planners into school each day so we can share with you when your child has read with us at school.

During guided reading sessions we will be using *The Iron Giant* to explore the language and techniques used by Ted Hughes, as we discuss the thoughts and feelings of the characters.



Spellings are set weekly on Mondays and tested on Fridays. The aim is for children to learn their spellings and use them in their writing. The spelling test will include spellings from previous weeks to ensure that they are retaining the words. The spelling patterns are taught in school along with all of the words giving every child the opportunity to access a wide variety of vocabulary.

Spellings to learn this half term:

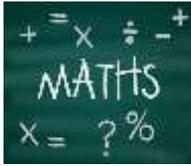
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
<i>ball</i>	<i>berry</i>	<i>great</i>	<i>meat</i>	<i>Plain</i>	<i>whose</i>	<i>build</i>
<i>bawl</i>	<i>bury</i>	<i>grate</i>	<i>meet</i>	<i>plane</i>	<i>who's</i>	<i>busy</i>
<i>accept</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>main</i>	<i>missed</i>	<i>rain</i>	<i>weather</i>	<i>breath</i>
<i>except</i>	<i>brake</i>	<i>mane</i>	<i>mist</i>	<i>rein</i>	<i>whether</i>	<i>breathe</i>
<i>affect</i>	<i>fair</i>	<i>groan</i>	<i>piece</i>	<i>reign</i>	<i>seen</i>	<i>business</i>
<i>effect</i>	<i>fare</i>	<i>grown</i>	<i>peace</i>		<i>scene</i>	

The class are organised into groups. The children only need to learn the spellings that co-ordinate in colour to their group number:

Group 1 *blue*

Group 2 *blue* and *green*

Group 3 all



As mathematicians the children will continue to use a variety of methods to solve addition and subtraction calculations for 2 and 3-digit numbers.

Moving on to multiplication and division, the children will use arrays and recap the 2, 5 and 10 times tables before progressing to the 3s, 4s and 8s. They will explore the strategies taught and how to apply the most appropriate one to solve a word problem.



In RE the class will gain an understanding of the Muslim faith as they find out about the Muslim call to prayer and why they get ready for prayer so carefully.

Anti-bullying week begins on the 15th November and the theme is One Kind Word. In PSHE we will be discussing what a bully is, what makes a good friend and how we can start a chain reaction of kindness.

We will also be finding out about the NSPCCs Speak out, Stay safe campaign while exploring healthy relationships and friendships.



Oak class have PE lessons on Mondays and Fridays. Please ensure that your child comes into school wearing their PE kit on these days. Earrings must be taken out or covered for the lessons and long hair is to be tied up. As the weather gets colder the children may wear dark tracksuit bottoms along with their school jumper to keep them warm.

In PE we will be exploring forces using a range of PE equipment. The children will invent games in pairs or small groups explaining which forces are at work.

Français

As French speakers, oak class will learn to ask and answer questions about how old they are. They will learn numbers 1 to 10 and use them in practical contexts by answering questions about how many and playing board games. We will also be finding out about the French artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir.

When your children are in school, please send them in with a coat, water bottle and lunchbox (if needed). Please remember that no toys, drawings or stationery are to be brought into school.

The Topic Homework follows and includes a variety of activities based on the Mighty Metals topic.

I am excited to be back in the classroom with the children and looking forward to getting to know them this half term,

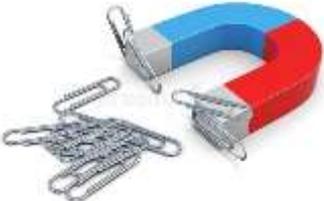
Mrs Farquhar



Mighty Metals Topic Homework Activities

Below are the exciting activities for you to choose from this half term. Challenge yourself and choose two tasks. You can bring your creations in to school or send in your homework by email or on seesaw by Friday 9th December.

<p>Use information books and the internet to find out about contact and non-contact forces, including friction, gravity and magnetism. Create an information poster to report your findings. Include a title, headings, facts and pictures.</p>	<p>Visit a local playground with a range of play apparatus. Explore and think about how the equipment works. For example, what makes the swing move to and fro? Do all things slide down the slide at the same speed? Take photos of the different play equipment in use and write a sentence to go with each, describing the forces at work.</p>	<p>Air resistance is a type of friction between air and another material. Use your research skills to learn about air resistance. Afterwards, find or draw a picture of a flying bird, a parachute, an aeroplane and a racing car and write sentences to explain the effect that air resistance will have on each object. Does the shape of the object matter?</p>
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<p>Galileo Galilei was a famous 16th century scientist who carried out experiments to learn about forces. Use the internet or information books to find out about Galileo's law of free fall, then write a short descriptive report. You might like to learn more about other scientific discoveries that he made.</p>	<p>Create a piece of art using aluminium foil. You can find many examples on the internet by typing key terms, such as 'aluminium foil art ideas', into the search bar.</p>	<p>Gravity is a force that pulls things to the ground. The scientist, Sir Isaac Newton, first described gravity. Find out more about gravity and the life and discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton. Choose how to present your findings about Newton and how he discovered gravity, as well as what gravity is and does.</p>
<p>Use information books and the internet to learn more about magnets and magnetism. Write down any interesting facts that you discover. Afterwards, use your facts to create a quiz about magnets and magnetism. See if a family member or friend can complete your quiz. Mark the quiz and share your knowledge, giving the answers to any questions that they answered incorrectly.</p>	<p>Use your research skills to find out about levers and how they work. Can you find out what the terms fulcrum, load and effort mean, and what these words have to do with levers? Find or draw pictures to show everyday items that are examples of levers. Label the fulcrum and load and draw arrows to show where a person applies effort to work the lever.</p>	<p>Use a range of sources to find out about different metals, their properties and uses. Use your research to answer the questions: What are metals? Where are they found? What is metallurgy? What does the process of extracting metals involve? Why are metals useful materials? Afterwards, complete a table for three metals of your choice. Include the metal's name, picture, properties and uses.</p>
<p>Search the internet to find artwork made using metal and make a collage or scrapbook of downloaded images. Include some information about the artist/artists.</p>	<p>Learn to spell the names of some common metals such as iron, gold, platinum, lead and aluminium. Create anagrams for your friends and family to solve.</p>	

Have fun and I look forward to sharing your learning.

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Useful websites

BBC Bitesize - Forces and Motion - KS2 Science

DKfindout! - What is friction?

BBC Bitesize - What are water and air resistance?

Britannica Kids - Galileo - Homework Help

Britannica Kids - Isaac Newton - Homework Help

DKfindout! - How do magnets work?

DKfindout! - What is a lever?

DKfindout! - Uses of metals

Britannica Kids - Metal - Homework Help