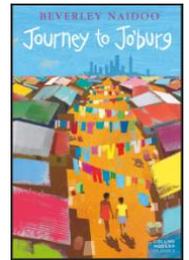


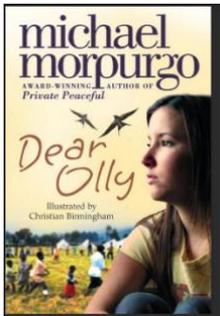


### English – Reading, Writing & Spelling

**Journey to Jo'burg by Beverley Naidoo**– For our theme of stories from another culture, we will be reading about the dangerous journey undertaken by siblings to find their mother in the city of Johannesburg during the time of apartheid. This will be the stimulus for our writing for this half term; it will be linked to the events, characters and setting (geographically and culturally) through letter writing, diaries, narratives, a non-chronological report about the apartheid system and a biography of Nelson Mandela.



**Dear Olly -Michael Morpurgo** will be the core text for our author study in the second half term. This novel links to our cultural focus; also set in Africa, we follow a young man on a voyage of discovery and written in three acts from the perspectives of different characters in the story. Its powerful plot will inspire children to produce descriptive and emotive writing with a focus on well-drawn characters. With the strong thread of determination this book inspires, we will explore the determination of inspirational non-fiction characters in non-fiction writing and consider who inspires us.



As reading is so intrinsically connected with developing children's imagination, vocabulary and writing skills, that we expect the children to be reading at home five times a week. Wherever possible, we would like children to read to an adult as this also contributes to the development of reading and writing. Please encourage children to log their own reading, independently as well as adding adult comments on the reading experience.

New spelling words will be issued every Friday and tested on the following Friday . Please support your child in learning these spellings each week.

### Maths

This term, we will be completing our unit on decimals and percentages before moving on to properties of shape, position and direction and finishing the term with units on converting units and measurement. In addition, we will complete a short arithmetic session each day to ensure that the four operations as well as fractions, decimals and percentages are well embedded.

### Science

In the first half of this summer term, our focus is on **Living Things and their Habitats** and **Animals including Humans**; we will be exploring life cycles of insects, amphibians, birds and mammals. In addition, we will

discover and explain asexual and sexual reproduction in living things; our final focus in this unit will be to describe the changes as humans develop to old age.

In Summer 2, we will be following the Jigsaw unit '**Changing Me**' and building on what we learnt about in Y4: exploring the changes that our bodies go through during puberty and how these changes prepare our bodies for reproduction. Further details and guidance around this unit will be sent out nearer the time.

### *Other Curriculum Subjects*

Our topic is: **Rainforests (Summer 1) and The Mayans (Summer 2)**

**History/ Geography:** In Geography, the children will be using atlases to locate rainforests on a world map. They will begin to recognise and use lines of longitude and latitude on globes and in an atlas. They will learn about the different layers of a tropical rainforest and the wildlife found in each. Children will have a growing understanding of why rainforests are so important to our planet, and they will explore the issues of deforestation and conservation.

In History, we will be learning about the **Ancient Maya**: where and how they lived, their beliefs, civilization and achievements.

**RE & PSHE:** This term in RE the children will be focusing on the questions 'If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?' which will consolidate the work we have been doing about relationships with God and what they look like in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and 'What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today' in which we will explore the five pillars of Islam and the importance of these to Muslim believers. Pupils will gain a greater understanding of Islam and what we can learn from its beliefs, values, and ideas. This investigation provides an opportunity to learn about the Qur'an and other forms of guidance.

In PSHE we will move on to our Jigsaw unit 'Relationships' which will consolidate the work we have done this year on online safety including online relationships. Our final unit links with science as we explore 'Changing Me', addressing the emotional side of puberty and growing up.

**PE:** For the first part of the summer term the children focus will be on cricket skills. In the second half term, children will be developing their skills in rounders and athletics.

**Art & Design:** Children will be exploring the work of famous French painter Henri Rousseau and expressing their opinions on his work. They will be producing their own rainforest paintings in the style of Henri Rousseau.

**Design & Technology:** In Summer 2, children will be designing and making their own rainforest shelter.

**Computing:** Children will continue to develop their skills as they use a range of computer applications. They will be learning how to programme using 'Lego WeDo' and continuing to learn about internet safety.

**Music:** This half term, our music focus is Motown – Dancing in the Street. We will be appraising and comparing a range of songs to find similarities within the genre, discover and share our own opinions as well as learning the lyrics and playing Dancing in the Street on recorders. Excitingly, this year will see the return of the end of year KS2 production. Years 4, 5 and 6 will all be involved in this; Years 4 and 5 play a supporting musical role in a production of .... **Treasure Island**.

### *Homework*

**English** – given out on Friday; to be handed in by the following Wednesday

**Maths** – given out on Friday; to be handed in by the following Friday

**Spelling** – given out on Friday; spelling test the following Friday

**Reading** – **5 times a week** and recorded in r

*If you do have any worries or concerns, please do speak to us. You can make an appointment via the school office or contact us on SeeSaw.*

**Mrs Paul and Miss Baxter**