Cuckoos and Magpies' Learning Adventure

Terms 1 and 2

Our Guiding Stars
(Learning skills)

Risk Taking

Perseverance

Self-confidence

Problem Solving

Independence

Creative Thinking

Personal Best

Teamwork

Motivation

Communication

Riots & Revolutions

Where will our adventure take us?

Our Writing Adventure

We will look into the life of Jim Jarvis in the book *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty — a young boy who is put into a workhouse when his family are evicted from their home. We will learn about the purpose of diary entry writing to reveal the writer's/ character's perspective in a detailed and engaging way. Following on from our diary work, we will look at crafting our own chapter after the events of *Street Child* using paragraphs.

Having been introduced to the Suffragette movement, we will continue to put ourselves into the shoes of others — this time an arrested Suffragette. After spending the term looking at the motivations and actions of the Suffragettes, the we will write and participate in a debate into whether the Suffragettes were heroes or criminals.

Our Reading Adventure

When reading our class texts (*Street Child* by Berlie Doherty and *Until We Win* by Linda Newbery), we will be focusing on character work. This will include using a piece of evidence (e.g. a section of speech or description of a character's behaviour), draw inferences and predictions around the character's thoughts, feelings and motives, and justify opinions through evidence.

Our Adventure Starts...

...travelling back in time to Victorian Ashford.

An adventure highlight...

...a day in the life of a Victorian school child.

Our Explosive Ending

...some electrifying and illuminating experiments.

Our Mathematical Adventure

We will start the year by reviewing our knowledge of place value to ensure that we know the value of each digit up to 1,000, 000. This will include ordering and comparing numbers and rounding numbers. We will then move onto methods of addition and subtraction. In this unit we will look at mental methods that we can use and revise how to use written methods accurately.

Our Computing Adventure

Our first topic in Computing will be looking at the word processor, Microsoft Word. We will learn how to add and format images and text and consider how to display information on a page.

In Term 2, we will look at creating our own databases, input our own data and consider the type of data we are inputting.

Our Scientific Adventure

With the introduction of electricity and artificial lighting during the Victorian period, we will be looking at electrical circuits including using the correct symbols that are used in circuit diagrams. We will look at how the voltage of cells affects the brightness of a lamp, the volume of a buzzer and compare and give reasons for variations in how components function.

As part of looking at the topic of Light, we will investigate how light travels in straight lines and use this idea to explain how objects are seen and why shadows have the same shape as the object which casts them.

Our Historical Adventure

In our History lessons, we will be examining causes and results of great events and the impact of people, including the Industrial Revolution and the organisation of the Suffragette movement. We will look at the differences between men and women from the start of the Victorian period until women received the right to vote. We will compare events from different sources and suggest reasons for differing versions of events. We will discuss the differences between primary and secondary sources and consider relevant sections of information.

Our Geographical Adventure

Although History is our main focus for this term, we will be looking at a range of maps to help us discover how Ashford has changed over time as a result of the Industrial Revolution.

Our Creative Adventure (art and DT)

Whilst studying the Victorians, we will focus on the artist and printer, William Morris. We will explore the printing methods used by Morris and explain other types of print techniques that were/are available. We will choose the printing method appropriate and use this to build up colours to create our own Morris-style wallpaper.

Using our understanding of electrical systems, we will create a system that could be used to warn a Suffragette meeting of police presence using an appropriate combination of series and parallel circuits, incorporating switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors.

Our Musical Adventure

During this term, we will be appraising and looking at the song 'Livin' on A Prayer' by Bon Jovi. We will discuss a number of elements such as style indicators, lyrics, musical dimensions featured in the song and where they are used, identify the structure and name some of the instruments used, as well as learn to perform the song with instruments.

Our Sporting Adventure

For Outdoor PE, we will be practising and playing Volleyball. This will include refining different strokes used in the game, e.g. dig, serves and volley, using simple attacking tactics and varying the length and direction of our shots.

As part of our Indoor PE sessions, we will be playing Dodgeball. We will be working on refining our throws and developing and selecting simple attacking and defending tactics during a match.

Our STAR Adventure

During the first term, we will be exploring the question "Is God real?" with the main focus on the God of Christianity. We will learn to understand and use the terms: theism, atheism and agnosticism. After acting as detective to try and find an answer to this question, we will create a balanced argument from the evidence we have looked at.

For PSHE, we will be looking at "Being Me in My World" where we will learn what means to be part of a class, our rights and responsibilities, setting personal goals and understanding what it means to be a good citizen. We will also look at Democracy as we vote for our House Captains.

During Term 2, we will look at places of worship for Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism and consider the question "If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?".

For PSHE, our topic is "Dreams and Goals" where we will look at perseverance, overcoming obstacles, resilience and growth mind-set. Around Christmas time, we will consider how we can care for our community.