

Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2 2015



3W: Mrs Whiteford **3T:** Mrs Turner **3S:** Mrs Sanders **LSAs:** Miss Baciu, Mrs Gill & Mrs Olliver

It's hard to believe we're in the final half-term of the year - the time has gone so quickly! The children are really excited about our upcoming visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard on 25th June. Many thanks to all of the parents who have volunteered to come with us. We hope for lovely sunshine so that we can eat our lunch on Southsea Beach and sketch pictures of the light on the water, but if not we can at least be assured that our time on The Victory will be fantastic whatever the weather. **If you have not yet returned the permission slip, please do so as soon as possible.**

Sports day is fast approaching. The children have started practising for the relay and sprint races. It seems we have a good number of potential athletes in our midst! Please check that you have the date in your diary - Friday 26th June, the day after our trip! It should be a great week for all of us.

Our end of term open afternoon will be on Monday 13th July, where, weather permitting, you will be invited to join the children in an exciting orienteering activity around the school grounds based on a famous voyage of exploration! Last year we all ended up wearing wellies and carrying umbrellas but had great fun nonetheless.

Main topics and learning this term:

Changes

Amazing voyages of Captain Cook!

Electricity

The PSHE topic is all about Changes as the children begin to think about moving up to Year 4! We also study People and their Work; most of you will have already been interviewed by your children as part of their homework. **This half term our main topic area continues to be U.K. Explorers-** a wonderful geography topic where the children will be learning about:

- The Amazing Journeys of Exploration and Discovery by Captain Cook
- **Our explorers topic will link to many other aspects of the curriculum:**
- We have just started reading a book by Susan Cooper called Victory to help us learn about great, heroic sea voyages linked to our atlas work. It will also help our understanding of the importance of ships in discovering new places, scientific findings and famous sea battles.
- Our new Science topic is Electricity and we will create circuits suitable for lighthouse warnings using light and sound.
- In Art we will look at the effects of light in Old Masters paintings of famous sea voyages and battles.
- In English, we will be creating an Information Booklet about Captain Cook, writing a diary of a sailor plus writing calligram poetry.
- In maths our number skills and use of plotting and co-ordinates will continue to help us with our orienteering and mapping skills.
- In ICT we are learning to use Logo to create sequences of instructions and will imagine we are plotting co-ordinates for our voyages to Australia.

How you can support your child's learning at home:

- Use My Maths to investigate number games
- Practise times tables and play tables games
- Practise neat, cursive handwriting using Year 3's Key Spelling list
- Learn more about Electricity (how Electricity is used at home and work)
- Borrow books from the library about continents, countries and famous U.K explorers

Dates for your diary:

Sports Day on Friday 26th June: Remember to bring a picnic!
Year 3's visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard on Thursday 25th June: Please return the permission slip if you haven't done so already.

End of unit outcome: Parents are invited to join Year 3 on **Monday 13th July**, where, weather permitting, you will work with your child in an exciting orienteering activity based on a famous journey of exploration.

Homework: There is **NO PROJECT** for this half term, however Maths and English will still be set each alternate Wednesday.

- If you would like to be a regular parent helper please speak to your child's class teacher as we are always keen for helpers to hear readers or support with art activities etc.