

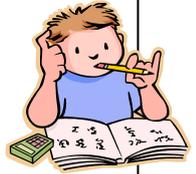
Four Lanes Community Junior School



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 1 2015

6S Mrs Sale (Year Leader), 6H Mr Hearfield, 6R Mr Roberts
Supported by Mrs Kaiser and LSAs Mrs Filbey and Mrs Sutton

Welcome back to school, welcome to Year Six and welcome to an exciting and challenging year of learning. Welcome to Mr Hearfield, Mrs Kaiser, Mrs Filbey and Mrs Sutton who are also new members of the Year Six family. We hope everyone will soon feel at home and ready to enjoy the new experiences our busy term ahead will bring.



Main topics and learning this term:

A Local History Study - Amazingstoke

Forces - Mechanics

A study of the history of Basingstoke is our first topic, investigating what has happened in the past to build the town as it is today. We are considering, in particular, the impact of the railway's development on the town and its people, the World Wars and other events that changed Basingstoke from a small town into an important industrial and commercial centre in Southern England. This will also include a visit from the Bishop of Basingstoke who will explain why the town has a bishop and what his role is within the community.

As part of studying our community, the children will continue to learn and teach others about the Rights, Roles and Responsibilities they have as the older children in the school. They will also look at their right to be safe and their responsibility to keep themselves safe in a range of instances, including friendship and choices they make in social situations as they grow older.



In the Science-led learning we are looking at the ways to control the action of different forces. The children will be exploring the ways that levers, pulleys, cogs and gears can be used to change direction, increase the action of a force or decrease the effort needed to make something happen. As part of the study, the children will learn about the Basingstoke Canal and how the lock mechanism was used to make boats travel up and down hills.



Each child will be given a Reading Journal to complete as they collect story ideas, amazing phrases to remember and concepts they enjoyed meeting in their chosen books. This may also be used in homework activities. In English lessons, they will learn the skills of writing a speech as they stand for election to School Council and for the House Captain positions. They will also develop their skills in writing in the style of newspapers and magazines, covering subjects arising from their learning about Basingstoke. There will be continued learning of concepts in Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation and the opportunity to demonstrate these in their writing.



Maths learning will cover Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division within problem-solving and particularly questions where the children will need to find more than one answer in order to solve the problem. We will be re-visiting learning on percentages, decimals, fractions, data handling and averages, again within real-life problems. The children are developing their recall of multiplication and division tables up to 12×12 - keeping up the practice is key!



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

- Reading remains fundamental to your child's further learning, so please listen to your child on a regular basis regardless of their ability. If your child has Bug Club, please help them use it.
- Constant revision of multiplication and division facts will always be useful; Mymaths and Woodlands Maths Zone are useful sites.
- Please record any activities that your child undertakes in their Home-link Book and ensure these are in school each day.

Homework:

This is set weekly on a Friday, for return on the following Wednesday. This half term, Maths and English homework will be setting activities on alternate weeks, starting with maths. Please look out for this and encourage your children to work effectively, carefully but as independently as possible. Where they have received any guidance from you, please note this in the book to enable us to support them further in school.



A few reminders:

- PE will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays this term. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school on these days. However it is always useful for their kit to be in everyday of the week; just in case.
- ICT is timetabled for a Tuesday and our School Library time is on a Monday afternoon.
- We have some very kind volunteers that hear your children read but we always welcome additional help. If you have an hour or two to spare then please contact your child's teacher to offer your services - it would be greatly appreciated.
- We will be creating mixed media projects in art which require collage - please could you begin to collect magazines for us to use? We look forward to working in partnership with you this year and thank you for your continued support.