

Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Summer 2 2016



3W: Mrs Whiteford **3T:** Mrs Turner **3S:** Miss Hodge **LSAs:** Mrs Olliver and Mrs Buchanan

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 6th July. This year we have booked a new, exciting workshop not offered previously, called, 'All hands on deck!' The children 'join' the Royal Navy at the time of Nelson and experience a day in the life of a sailor, taking part in the 'powder monkey challenge' and 'learning the ropes'. This will be led by costumed staff from the Dockyard and will give everyone the opportunity to discover what life was like on board HMS Victory. If you would like to volunteer as a parent helper, please complete the section on the permission slip as usual. **If you have not yet returned the permission slip, please do so as soon as possible.**

Sports day is next Friday. The children are practising in school for the relay and sprint races. Yet again we seem to have a good number of potential athletes in our midst!

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. This will be followed by an opportunity to speak to your child's teacher regarding their end of year report. Please ring the office if you require an appointment.

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 been reading a book by Susan Cooper called Victory to help us learn about great, heroic sea voyages linked to our atlas work. It will 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 24th June: Remember to bring a picnic!

Year 3's visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard on Thursday 6th July: 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 11th 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.