

Four Lanes Community Junior School



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter
Spring 2 2017

Mrs Adams (Year Leader), 4AD Miss Davies, 4G Mrs Godliman, 4D Mr Davey
Supported by our LSAs Mrs Gill and Mrs Harrison

We have had a busy start to this half term already and the children have made a great start to their topic work through our visit to Festival Place to see their award winning recycling facilities. Thank you to the parent helpers who came with us and to everyone else who volunteered. The children are working hard to prepare for the Pupil Led Learning Review evenings and are looking forward to sharing the learning they are most proud of with you.



Thank you again to our fantastic parent helpers who come in to support the children with times tables and reading each week. If you are able to come in to help please do not hesitate to contact us!

Main topics and learning this term:

Recycling

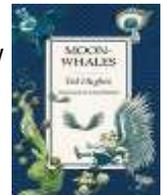
Mixing and Separating

We are investigating recycling this half term and the children are exploring the reasons behind why we recycle as well as methods of recycling. Our trip to Festival Place has already given the children a huge amount of information about recycling. The children were fascinated by the behind the scenes tour of the recycling facilities at Festival Place and we were all impressed by the efforts that the centre go to in order to recycle as much material and food waste as possible. Through the rest of the topic we will be investigating facts and figures associated with recycling in the UK and debating the use of landfill sites before proposing actions we can take to conserve the environment.



In science this term the children are learning about mixing and separating. They will begin by considering how people with no access to clean water could make their water safe to drink. After this initial exploration the children will undertake a range of practical investigations into different ways in which solids and liquids can be mixed and separated.

The children have really enjoyed working with students from The University of Winchester on a poetry project as part of their guided reading. They have explored some poems by Ted Hughes and have now created their own "moon creatures" as the inspiration for their own poetry writing. We are very much looking forward to hearing their final poems. In English the children have been critically analysing a range of non-fiction texts in order to cast their votes for the Hampshire Information Book Award. They will also be writing non-chronological recycling reports and balanced discussions.



In maths this term we will be learning about properties of 2D shapes and finding symmetry in shapes of different orientations. We will also be looking at measurements, including accurate measuring and converting between units of measurement. The children have enjoyed learning about Roman Numerals this week and are continuing to challenge themselves to consolidate their times table knowledge.

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:

Spellings and times tables are tested on Thursdays. We have a recycling project this term where the children have been asked to create a functional item from recyclable materials. This project homework takes the place of our English homework and runs until the end of term, alternating with maths homework tasks. Please ensure that all homework books are in on or before the Wednesday.

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 every day of the week; just in case.
- Our School Library time is on a Tuesday afternoon.
- Dates for the diary: Pupil Led Learning Reviews 14.03.17, Red Nose Day 24.03.17, Ground Force Day 25.03.17, Topic Outcome 2.45pm 03.05.17
- Spellings are sent home and tested on Thursdays.