

# Four Lanes Community Junior School



## Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2017

Mrs Sale, Mrs Becousse, Mr Hearfield, Mr Roberts,  
LSAs - Mrs Cummins, Dr Sutton

Welcome back to the Summer Term after what we hope has been a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We know the children have been practising their English and Maths skills each day and are ready for the next few weeks of learning. Obviously, SATs loom large for all of us but we will continue to do our best to help the children to prepare for and to do their best in these tests. We will also be helping the children get ready for the more important journey of moving to their next school and working with them to grow in independence and safe self-confidence.



### Main topics and learning this term:

An Ancient Civilisation – The Mayans

Science: Life Cycles and Micro-organisms

As you may expect, for the first two weeks of this half-term, the focus has been on SATs and helping the children to achieve everything that you and we know they can. Following from Mrs Sale's briefing about the tests back in January, you may remember that we spend the time before the tests helping the children to find interesting ways to remember information that they need and to hone their techniques for getting the most done during the time allowed. This year, we are working together to build a "Knowledge City" where the children create buildings and features from shape nets then fill the faces with facts, tips and hints. This sort of activity really helps children to make their own decisions about what to revise and what they feel confident in applying.

During the week itself, we will have a small "Snack Club" before school each day and get tests started as close to 9am as possible as this helps the children to stay calmer. Please could you help by making sure that they get good food, good sleep and are in school at 8.40 when classroom doors open.

In the two weeks after SATs, we will be launching our brilliant "Mayans" topic with an outdoor learning day centred around Mayan crafts and traditions. This will develop into researching the ancient society. We will also be looking at the variation in Life Cycles across our animal world and the role of microbes in everyday life within our Science lessons. Miss Hay will be starting a Music unit based around African rhythms and the French, with Mrs Kaiser, will be looking at children's taste in music. We have already had a number of adults volunteers to come and talk about careers with the children for our PSHEE topic but please join the list and volunteer if you feel you could.

#### Key dates:

8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May SATs Week

23<sup>rd</sup> May – Mayan Visitor and "Dress in Mayan Style" Day (see the visitor notification letter that came out before Easter for ideas)

5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June – Calshot Week

14<sup>th</sup> June – Think Safe Trip

23<sup>rd</sup> June – Sports Day (27<sup>th</sup> in reserve)

6<sup>th</sup> AND 7<sup>th</sup> July - Secondary Transition Day (unless your child's secondary has told you an alternative day)

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July – Year Five and Six Production – please could all children be available?

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

- Reading is fundamental to help your child further their learning, so please listen to your child on a regular basis regardless of their ability.
- Constant revision of x table facts will always be useful to keep up
- Please record any activities that your child undertakes in their Home-link Book – the Summer Term a "Secondary-Ready" Habit.

#### Homework:

The Homework will continue to be based around practising skills in English and Maths and we will be asking the children to use Bug Club, Grammar Spelling Bug and My Maths to revise and practise.

#### A few reminders:

- PE will still 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.
- We always welcome additional help in school so 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.
- If you feel like you could talk to us about your 'world of work', please let us know!