

Friday 5th January 2018

Year 6 Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

Firstly, I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas & New Year holiday and I can't believe how quickly our first term in class 6 has gone! Before we know it we'll be packing our bags for the action packed trip to Robin Wood, celebrating the end of the summer term with leavers' assemblies & discos/party events too! So with high school on the horizon, I'm hoping that your child can continue to make the good progress that I've seen from them during the Autumn term.

This term will be just as busy as ever. For our class texts we will use books by Karin Gruss and Michael Morpurgo which will be used throughout our English work to develop: reading, grammar, punctuation, spelling and writing skills. We've also identified from autumn term assessments that virtually all pupils were finding the following very tricky aspects of grammar and punctuation difficult:

- Present Perfect Tense
- Sub-Ordinating or Co-ordinating conjunctions
- Subjunctive forms
- Explaining different meaning of sentences with commas in different positions
- Active and Passive voice
- Determiners
- Antonyms
- Using dashes and hyphens
- Prepositions
- Possessive pronouns.

Consequently, we have tailored part of our spring term curriculum to focus in on these challenging aspects of the new curriculum, to give them the best possible chance to succeed in their SAT's assessments. **SAT's week** takes place this year from **Monday 14th – Thursday 17th May** this year. In order to further support your child, school has also ordered 3 new revision workbooks from Rising Stars (one for reading; another for grammar, punctuation and spelling; and one for maths). These will be given out next week and will involve the pupils being set additional homework to that of the existing weekly spellings to learn at home (nb. There will be no more number Zumba homework this term).

HOMEWORK timetable:

Monday:

- Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling workbook pages set
- Spellings to learn at home given out (in orange home journals)

Wednesday:

- Reading workbook pages set

Friday:

- Maths Workbook pages set

For each of the homework tasks set, pupils will be given 1 week to complete them and we will mark these tasks together in class the following week (eg. G.P.S tasks will be due back in on Mondays, Reading tasks on Wednesdays and Maths tasks due back on Fridays a week after they've been set).

These additional homework tasks are designed to help best prepare your child for the tests they'll take in the summer and for their future education at their respective high schools too. Hopefully you'll be able to support your child to remember to keep up to date with these whilst also encouraging them to become more independent in terms of them remembering to pack them in their own bags on the correct days etc.

In Maths we will be cover a range of topics focusing mainly on pupils' reasoning (problem-solving!) skills. We will obviously continue to refine our arithmetic skills, however I'm pleased to say that most pupils in the class have already excelled in this area & for them it is just a case of 'keeping their hand in'. Maths topics that we haven't covered yet and will cover this term will include :

- Co-ordinates
- Number Puzzles & Pyramids (including products of numbers)
- A range of Word problems (involving multi-step and opposite calculations)
- Percentages
- Area and Perimeter
- Ratio and Proportion
- Fractions (including ordering)
- Quadrilaterals
- Translation of shapes
- Mass
- Decimals

Our Science and Topic work will continue to be mainly covered by Mrs Buckroyd. PE sessions this term will see us working with Pro-Skills coaches and Jimmy's School of Martial Arts amongst other games skills. There's even a Tag Rugby festival @ Keighley Cougars coming up soon for any children who are interested in taking part. We will also be continuing our 'Daily Mile' running sessions – I must say the children in year 6 are excelling at this (most of them are lapping me now too!).

In order to further enhance our ICT, DT & English curriculum, I'm also currently in the process of planning a trip to the National Media Museum to complete an excellent 'Animation Workshop' designed specifically for school children to use state of the art technology and have a first taster of becoming mini film makers. The approximate cost of the trip will be around £10-£15 per child, and further information about this will be sent out in another letter/e-mail to you all soon.

One final date for your diary this term is:

TUESDAY 27th MARCH from 2-3pm for our Year 6 Parents Event

Parents are invited in to school this afternoon to see what we've been learning about in year 6.

Finally, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in your child's final year here at Harden Primary.

Yours sincerely

Mr Weston.