



Thursday 16th January 2020

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 Ingleborough Hall, celebrating the end of the summer term with the leavers' show and not to mention the party night 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. Our first class text that we will use is War Horse by 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:

- Perfect tense & Progressive 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 and to help them be fully prepared for year 7. **SAT's week** takes place from **Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May** this year. In order to further support your child, you will have noticed that school has also ordered 3 new revision style workbooks from Rising Stars (one for reading; another for grammar, punctuation and spelling; and one for maths). These workbooks will continue to support your child's learning in class by weekly homework tasks – which the pupils have kept up to date with very well so far. Just to remind you the timetable is as follows:



Monday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> READING Workbook pages set (due back following Monday)
Wednesday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRAMMAR, PUNCTUATION & SPELLING workbook pages set (due back following Wednesday) Spellings to learn/practise at home given out (in orange home journals)
Friday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MATHS workbook pages set (due back following Friday)

For each of the homework tasks set (approximately 20-40 mins) pupils will be given 1 week to complete them and we will mark these tasks together in class the following week. 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.

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 have identified as problematic for most children in the class and subsequently we will cover this term will include:

- A range of Word problems (involving multi-step and inverse operation calculations, fractions, intervals of time, lengths, masses, capacities, etc)
- 3-D shapes (nets & volumes)
- Statistics : including averages (eg. mode, median, mean)
- Estimating & rounding
- Ratio and Proportion
- Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (including ordering, equivalence, calculations & reasoning problems)

Our Science and Topic work will continue to be mainly covered by Mrs Buckroyd. Animals (including humans) will be our new Science topic and our History & Geography work will cover a range of interesting topics linked to our class book(s). As War Horse is set during World War 1,



we'll be focusing on this period and we will also be learning about local history linked to Saltaire this term too.

PE sessions this term will see us working with Jimmy delivering his expert Martial Arts techniques to the children on Fridays & Mr Weston will continue to develop Tag Rugby skills on Mondays (weather permitting!) Please can I remind you that after February half-term, **week beginning Monday 24th February** the new routine for PE days is for the children to come in to school in their uniform & to bring their PE kit with them to change into as this is another little step towards becoming more organised/independent for high school. We will also be continuing with our 'Daily Mile' running sessions – I must say the children in year 6 are excelling at this (a good few children regularly lap me nowadays!)

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