



Handale Primary School
West Park Avenue
Loftus
TS13 4RL
Tel: 01287 640416
Headteacher: Mrs H. Blakeley



7th January 2020

Year 6 Newsletter Spring Term 2020

Dear Parent, Guardian,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a fantastic Christmas break and are eagerly looking forward to all of the fantastic opportunities that the Spring Term has to offer our Year 6 pupils. Autumn Term was a huge success for everyone and we are very proud of everything the children have achieved so far this academic year. Spring Term promises to be another great opportunity with lots of enriching and fulfilling activities planned already.

We are all aware that our Year 6 pupils will sit the national SAT Tests, which this year takes place week commencing Monday 11th May and we are proud of the work they have already completed in preparation for this. We passionately believe that life in Year 6 should not just revolve around these tests and that a holistic approach is most important but at the same time, we want each and every child to be well prepared. With this in mind, we will be holding weekly after-school clubs for our pupils and we would strongly encourage everyone to attend. These sessions will be focused but more importantly fun and engaging for all. There will be a reward trip to Air Time for the children who attend every booster session. Please see the school letter sent to all children within the first week back for more information.

Spring Term Topics

Topic work this term will focus around the question "Have We Always Looked Like This?" Our work will be heavily influenced by science and geography and children will be learning about inheritance and evolution, where they will study the life and work of Charles Darwin. Geographical skills will be developed through map work and also through studying climates and habitats.

Our RE topic work this term will look at creation stories from different religions and pupils will have the opportunity to explore and discuss these with their peers. This work will also link with PSHCE, allowing us to explore different cultural values and beliefs.

Our PE topics this term include net games, such as basketball and we hope to send some of the children to a competition event later in the term. We will also be teaching dance which the children always tend to enjoy.





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Reading at home and in school

As we approach the SAT Tests in May, it is essential that pupils read at home to an adult at least three times a week and have their reading record signed accordingly. Children will also read regularly to adults in school, both in group sessions and individually. As we previously mentioned, when children read to an adult, it can be extremely beneficial not only to listen to them, but also to discuss their reading; making predictions, expressing opinions, finding evidence to justify their thoughts etc. These skills can really help to bring on Year 6 pupils' comprehension and help them to become even more fluent and capable readers.

PE Kit

Please send your child's PE kit to school on a Monday each week. They will bring it home on a Friday unless it gets wet or muddy prior to this. Pupils should have a change of outdoor shoes for PE in case the field is muddy.

Homework

Year 6 homework will include reading at home 3 times a week, practising weekly spellings and specific SATs style homework to develop the skills required within maths and English. Children can also complete extra homework and research related to our topic focus within school.

School Trips

Our trip to Heugh Battery in Hartlepool was an enormous success and we feel that the experience definitely heightened your child's understanding and involvement within our topic focus during the Autumn Term. We already have a trip to the Ironstone Museum booked, which will include a day in and around the museum and a workshop back at school. We look forward to giving you more information about this in due course. We will also begin preparing for the residential visit to Kingsway during the Spring Term and again we will be in touch shortly to discuss this in further detail.

Could we also please take this opportunity to remind parents and children that large bags are no longer allowed in school due to space and practicality reasons.

We look forward to sharing our experiences with you as we progress through the Spring Term and also working in partnership with you to make the coming year a real success.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come and speak to me.

Kind regards,

Mr Emmerson

