



Handale Primary School
West Park Avenue
Loftus
TS13 4RL
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4th September 2020

Year 6 Newsletter

Autumn 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hello all and welcome to Year 6 and your child's last year in primary school. This is, of course, such an important year for all the pupils but it is also a chance for your children to lead the way and show the rest of the pupils and adults within the school what mature, thoughtful, caring and hard-working individuals they have become. We are really hoping that all the year 6 pupils will prove to be excellent role models for the rest of the school.

Year 6 pupils face a year of hard work and challenge in the classroom as they prepare for secondary education, but it can also be a time of great opportunity and enjoyment as they take advantage of all the school has to offer its oldest pupils. We are really pleased to have Mrs Oakley working in the Year 6 team this year and she will have a big role to play in ensuring your child maximises their potential and finishes their time at primary school on a high.

Please find below the details of our work this term. If you need any further information about any aspect of your child's time in year 6, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Autumn Term Topics

Within the first half of the Autumn term, our specific focus will be History under the theme of 'Conflict' where we will begin our journey at World War 1 and make our way through to World War 2. Within this, we will look at the key events within these wars and the impact of both upon the people of our country. Our English theme will follow this where we will be looking at a Flashback narrative with the story of 'Carrie's War by Nina Bawden' as our focus text. We will also be reading this book during Autumn 1 with the aim of helping the children to understand what life was like for an evacuee child during the Second World War. Art will follow suit with WW1 trench life and the war at sea being the focus, using the style of Russian Artist Wassily Kandinsky to present our work. Music within Year 6 this half term will look at music which represents or has represented the wars and within Religious Education we will consider if religion causes conflict and asking the question, 'Are we always right?'. Within computing, we will be looking at how we can stay safe on the internet with our PHSE focus being sex and relationships. PE will be split with us looking at invasion games and health and fitness. Finally within Science, the focus will be on Evolution and Inheritance where the children will be looking at adaptation and variation by considering the discoveries of Charles Darwin.

During the second half of the Autumn term, our focus will move from History to Geography and during this period we will be looking at 'Trading and Economic'. This will be a real opportunity for the children to delve into how goods and services are traded around the world. Our book focus will remain along the conflict line where we will be looking at 'Archie's War by Marcia Williams'. Within Design and Technology, we will aim to design and build a free-standing structure which will be used to carry marbles following a design specification. PE will continue with invasion games in part but will also begin to introduce gymnastics. Also, RE will continue to ask if religion causes conflict but also begin to consider what we believe in our town. The PSHE focus will continue from Autumn 1 but within Computing we will begin to look at search engines and the internet. Through the whole of the Autumn term we will also be polishing up our French so you can just sit back and watch the fluency develop.





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Reading at home and in school

Separate information will be sent out to give you information about this term's 'Read for the Stars'. 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 weekly to adults in school, both in group sessions and individually. Children will change their books every Monday. We do not expect your child to read a book a night, a couple of pages is acceptable and this way your child won't get bored. Last year's reading parties were a huge success and we will be doing the same thing this term so make sure you get those three weekly reads in!

PE Kit

We will be completing an afternoon of PE every Monday afternoon with the focus of the sessions detailed above. Please make sure children have a white top, black shorts and appropriate PE shoes in school in their PE bag provided by school every Monday and we will send it home for washing on a Friday. Black tracksuit bottoms can also be worn during winter.

School Trips

Due to recent events, we don't have an Autumn Term trip planned currently but we do aim to take the children out into the local area every few weeks to further our learning in school. More information will be sent out to you regarding this. Library visits will also take place at some point this term, again, more information will be sent out regarding this. We look forward to sharing our experiences with you as we progress through the Autumn Term and also working in partnership with you to make the coming year a real success.

Homework

Homework in the Autumn Term will involve children learning their spellings, in preparation for their weekly test on a Friday morning, and completing their reading practice three times per week. In addition to this, pupils will receive a piece of Maths homework weekly. We are conscious that we do not wish to overburden our pupils but know that many of you enjoy completing extra activities with your children and we would encourage you to continue to do so – please feel free to carry out your own research about your child's topic. Something like a piece of artwork or a game is always great to share with the class and can add valuable contributions to our curriculum.

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

Kind regards,

Mr Emmerson & Mrs Oakley

