

Science, Computing & ICT

Our Science learning will be all about forces this term, thinking about key terms, how forces act upon each other and their relevance in daily life. As always, ICT will be embedded in many activities across the curriculum and used to enhance the children's learning and understanding.



The current computing curriculum places increasing importance on the children's understanding of coding and basic computer programming. We will continue to develop this skill using a number of LearnPad apps, such as Lightbot, Kodu, Scratch and many of the online 'Hour of Code' resources.

Useful websites for supporting learning at home include:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zyr9wmn>
- <http://code.org/learn>
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>
- <http://www.mathplayground.com/index.html>
- <http://www.mathsisfun.com/>
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize/
- <http://www.literacyshed.com/> (film clips to inspire writing)
- <http://nrich.maths.org> (maths challenge for Key Stage 1 & 2)

As always, if you have anything you would like to discuss or query with regards to your child's learning in school, do pop in and let me know.

Kind regards,

Dan Taylor



Lavant C.E. Primary School
Pheasant Class Year 5/6
Curriculum outline - SPRING TERM 2017

TERM DATES ends: Friday 7th April
HALF TERM: Monday 20th - Friday 24th February

Learning Journey Topics:

PSHE - E-Safety

Science - Forces

History - Rome

Geography - Knowledge of the World

Children in Pheasant class will be learning about a range of topics during their learning journeys this term, all building knowledge while helping to develop their maths and English work. Among other things, the children will be thinking about e-safety and the perils of the internet, as well as learning about forces and how they act on items in science. Our key topic will be the Romans and the children will learn all about the Roman invasion of Britain (building on our work on the Anglo-Saxons last term), while also thinking about a range of Roman myths and legends, and how to write a legend effectively.

Towards the end of the term, the children will be thinking as geographers and learning about the world at large and the location and physical aspects of various countries. This will tie in nicely with our Japanese language work which we will build on over the course of the term.

Homework

A homework task to be completed over the weekend is usually set on a Friday, to be completed by Thursday. Maths homework will be set through the Mathletics website and a rewards scheme in which the children can earn Golden Time (independent play time) on a Friday afternoon based on their use of Mathletics is now in place. Details of other homeworks are given on an instruction sheet in their green homework book. Children should also be reading (a range of fiction) regularly and discussing texts with an adult at home, while also practising spellings and times tables regularly.

Literacy

Most of the writing tasks this term will relate to the children's learning journey topics. For example, while studying Forces, the children will be learning to write persuasively in order to convince an extreme sports athlete whether he should or shouldn't continue the sport as a hobby. Later in the term, the children will be building on their narrative writing skills with links to our Romans topic. The children are aware that all writing across subjects and homework is a chance to practise their writing skills and should reflect their best work.

That time of year when the Year 6 children take their National Curriculum tests is approaching. You may already know that writing is no longer assessed through test, but instead through the teacher assessment of a range of the children's writing. In order to give the children the best possible chance to produce thoughtful, interesting writing we are going to run our 'Writing Café' on Monday afternoons this term. Children in year 6 will be taught as a year group and will engage in a range of writing tasks designed to inspire them to think about different styles and genre.

In return for their enthusiasm and hard work, they will be rewarded with something from the café menu (hot chocolate etc, not double espresso!). During this session, Year 5 will remain in class for a lesson led by Mr King.



Numeracy

We will begin the year with a strong focus on fractions, understanding the tricky concept of what a fraction represents and how we can manipulate number to aid our mathematical understanding. We will also be consolidating our written calculation skills for each of the four operations through weekly arithmetic quizzes. Other individual units of work within the term include decimals and percentages, ratio and proportion, data handling (now called statistics) as well as other stand alone topics.

Each week the children will also be given plenty of opportunity to demonstrate their skills in reasoning and ability to apply prior learning to solve a range of real-life problems. The children will continue to be tested on multiplication tables recall each week on a Friday. Those children who are currently learning their tables will be closely monitored and given a specific number to focus on each week.

We will be encouraging a new approach to mathematical questions and answering in Pheasant class with an emphasis on children explaining WHY they believe something is correct and not solely answering the question, so rather than answering $3 \times 5 = 15$, the children will need to think a little more deeply and answer (for example) $3 \times 5 = 15$ because 3×5 is the same as adding the number five three times.

Physical Education (P.E.)

In games the children will develop their skills in a range of invasion sports, beginning with tag rugby. Other P.E. lessons will include both gym and dance sessions, with gym work building on a range of gymnastic shapes to create and perform a routine to music.

Please ensure that P.E. kits stay in school all week and that your child brings a tracksuit or sweat top to wear over their P.E. kit when the weather is particularly cold - we do still like to get outside.