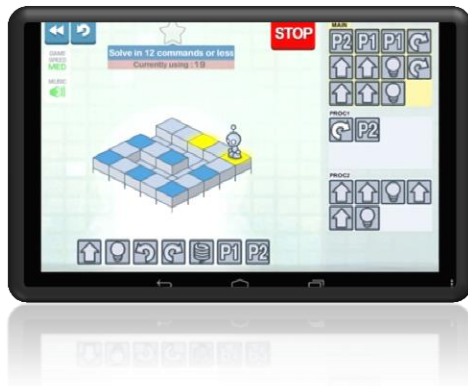


## Computing & ICT

ICT will be embedded in many activities across the curriculum and used to enhance the children's learning and understanding. As in previous terms, the children will have the opportunity to use digital still and video cameras and publishing software to present their work in a variety of creative ways. The children will also continue to explore how to use ICT to communicate with children in schools elsewhere in the World, including our Japanese twin school. The 2014 computing curriculum places increasing importance on the children understanding coding and basic computer programming. To this end, the children will be learning basic programming skills in a range of ways, including fun applications and programmes such as Scratch and Kodu!



Useful websites for supporting learning at home include:

- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/anglo\\_saxons/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/anglo_saxons/)
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>
- <http://www.mathplayground.com/index.html>
- <http://www.mathsisfun.com/>
- [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize/](http://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)

This term promises to be an exciting one in Pheasant Class and we can't wait to get started. If you have any questions about your child's learning at any point or any other matter, then do be sure to pop in for a chat.

Daniel Taylor



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

TERM DATES	ends: Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
HALF TERM:	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
INSET DAY:	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October

Welcome to another school year. We hope you had a wonderful summer and that everyone is feeling refreshed and looking forward to the Autumn term. Our Year 5/6 children have all had a fantastic start to the new academic year and are very excited for the term ahead. The following newsletter will give you an idea of some of the exciting opportunities in store for the children over the coming weeks.

## Our First Learning Journey

The children will be engaged in a range of learning journeys this term, challenging their thinking and pushing their learning limits. Learning journeys are designed to be clear, concise units of work which link concepts together in a natural way to create the best learning experience for the children in our school. This half-term, we have started our learning journeys by finding out all about our brain and how we can use this knowledge to develop a Growth Mindset (see below). Our next challenge on this journey will be to write some poetry all about our incredible brains.

Later this term (Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October), we hope to share this learning journey with you all in our first class assembly of the year, and we look forward to seeing you all there.

### Other learning journeys this term

Over the course of this term, the children will be engaging with a range of other learning on various subjects. After our work on Growth Mindsets, children will be considering the local area from a geographical perspective, while also refining their technique on instructional writing, before a unit which will develop their story writing work alongside their musical understanding.

After half term, our learning journeys will include a unit on evolution and inheritance, in which the children will be learning all about natural selection and considering how this links in with Christian and scientific viewpoints. A narrative unit in which the children consider how to improve their stories through the use of vivid settings and detailed characters will follow, leading into the Christmas period.

### Other topics

Some topics will still run alongside our learning journeys this term. For example the children will be learning Japanese as part of the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum, linking in with our partner school in Hirabari-Minami in Japan. Some PSHCE and RE units will also be covered as stand-alone topics, beginning with some work on "Getting on and falling out" in PSHCE, with an emphasis on how to work well in teams.



"Don't practise until you get it right; practise until you can't get it wrong."

Growth Mindset is the concept that abilities are not fixed but can be developed through hard work and challenge. In Pheasant Class, and throughout our school, we want all children to understand that their abilities and achievements are directly linked to their attitude and how they learn to overcome challenges, developing the brain like any other muscle in the body. This is something we will be discussing a lot in class over the course of this academic year, to develop a real understanding of the concept for all involved. If you would like to know more on this subject, then do ask your children, our new resident experts, or pop in for a chat at any point.

### Maths

The children will continue to practise and develop their oral and mental skills (i.e. rapid recall of  $+$   $-$   $\div$   $\times$  skills and facts). We will begin the year with a strong focus on place value and the number system before moving into written calculation and arithmetic skills for each of the four operations. Individual units of work later in the term will include fractions, decimals and percentages, statistics, and shape, space and measure. Each week the children will also be given plenty of opportunity to demonstrate their skills in reasoning and their ability to apply prior learning to solve a range of real-life problems and investigations. As always, all work will be pitched at an accessible but challenging level, building on prior learning.

### Physical Education (P.E.)

We have lots of amazing sports opportunities for the children this term in addition to their regular PE sessions. As well as swimming on Thursday mornings at the Westgate Centre, all children will have the opportunity to enjoy a half term of forest school afternoons. In games, the children will develop their skills in a range of invasion sports, including netball and football. On Fridays the children will have an indoor gymnastic lesson, so please make sure that P.E. kits stay in school all week.

The children will also be receiving four weeks of squash skills coaching in the school hall from coaches from Chichester Racquet & Fitness club. There will be an opportunity for selected children who show particular interest and development in the sport to have an additional session on the courts at the club in Chichester. Children are advised to bring a tracksuit or sweat top to wear over their P.E. kit when the weather turns colder, although hopefully the nice weather will continue for a few weeks yet.

### Homework

A homework task will be set on a Friday, to be completed by Thursday in the children's homework books (at the same standard as would be expected in class). Compulsory maths homework will be set through the Mathletics website and as always certificates are awarded in our celebration assemblies on Fridays for those children who engage above and beyond the minimum requirement. Children should also be reading regularly and discussing texts with an adult at home (please update reading records accordingly), while also practising spellings and times tables regularly.