



Downside Primary School

Chaul End Lane, Luton,
Bedfordshire LU4 8EZ

T: 01582 587160

F: 01582 587169

E: dpsadmin@lbc.luton.sch.uk

W: downside-primary.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss Karen Hooker

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Dear Parents/ Carers of Year 6 children,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy new year and to say how good it is to see the children back refreshed and ready to learn.

As we move ever closer to the SATs tests in May, it is important that the children come into school ready to learn: a good night's sleep and a filling breakfast often helps with this!

We have had a good turn-out for morning drop-ins. As a reminder, Year 6 children can come in at 8.15am on their allocated days:

Hurricane- Tuesday and Thursday.

Tempest- Tuesday and Wednesday.

Spitfire- Monday and Tuesday.

Lancaster- Wednesday and Thursday.

Stirling- Tuesday and Wednesday.

Homework

We are pleased with most children's attitude to their homework this year. Homework will continue to be set on a **Friday** and is due in on a **Wednesday**. Each week the children will also be expected to complete a piece of work based around our key areas: Numeracy (pages from the Collins Maths Homework book), Grammar and Punctuation and Spelling. The children will also have a new Rainbow Homework Menu. We will maintain our focus on spelling by continuing to set the children 6 spellings set around a rule and then testing on these and 4 'mystery' words. Spellings will be given out on a **Friday** and tested on a **Thursday** in most classes. Children should also be reading daily at home to an adult. We would just like to remind you that children should be trying to read a book from the given reading list in their Reading Journal.

Curriculum Websites

The school provides the children with a range of websites that they can use to enhance their learning at home. **Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars** are great for Numeracy and **Reading Eggspress** provides games to help learn the weekly spellings. The **Curriculum Visions** website has a range of eBooks which may be helpful for carrying out research. Each child has an individual log-in for these sites and these can be found in their reading journal.



Curriculum

In Numeracy this term, we will be focusing on the children's reasoning skills. They have built up a good knowledge of number and now to need apply this to a range of mathematical problems. We will also look at percentages and algebra.

In Literacy, we will be focusing on biographies and writing a biography about a person who has inspired others. We will also be writing a mystery story based on the novel 'Beetle Boy'. We will continue to revise the grammar needed for the upcoming SATs Grammar test.

Our Science work this half term will be focused on materials. The children will be investigating the effects of different materials in different weather conditions. Through fair testing, the children will learn how to find patterns and draw conclusions.

In games this term, children will be learning the skills and rules to play netball and perform the Haka. They will also be working on their map skills in orienteering activities and learning the rules to play badminton.

Once again this is a very busy term for Year 6! If you have any questions please come in and see your child's class teacher or myself.

Yours sincerely,

Miss H Bell
Year 6 Leader

*Dates for your diary:

- Wednesday 21st February-SATs Parent meeting at 3:45pm.
- Week beginning Monday 12th March – MOCK SATs week.
- Week beginning Monday 14th May- SATs week.

Monday 14 May English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2

Tuesday 15 May English reading

Wednesday 16 May Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Thursday 17 May Mathematics paper 3

- Friday 18th May- Cadbury World Trip.
- Wednesday 4th July- Legoland trip.
- Wednesday 6th June – Year 6 Eid Assembly