

## Downside Primary School

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**Headteacher:** Miss Karen Hooker

April 2022

Dear parent,

I hope you had a good break. It is lovely to see the children rested and ready for more learning but it is also hard to believe that we are at this part of the year already! The end of year SATs are just a couple of weeks away now and the children have been working very hard in school to prepare for them; we really appreciate the support you are giving your children at home, helping them to practise the skills they are learning at school.

The dates for the SATs are below:

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Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
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Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	English reading
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Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Mathematics papers 1 and 2
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Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Mathematics paper 3
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As a reminder, there will be a SATs breakfast each morning of SATs week (Monday-Thursday) from 8:10am. We really encourage children to come in for this (even if they have already eaten at home) as it can help to calm nerves!

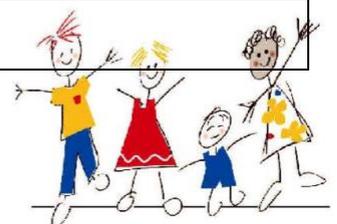
Parents have highlighted that they would like further information about what their child is learning and therefore this letter should give you a more detailed insight into our topics and learning for this half term.

### **Literacy:**

In Literacy, we will continue our writing until the end of the summer term in order to help the children prepare for the demands of high school. Children will also be writing a variety of texts focusing on applying all the writing skills they have learnt this year as we collect evidence for their writing teacher assessment.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1	-Recap formal tense -Recap features of a letter
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	-Subjunctive tense
Week 2	-Plan and write a letter of complaint -Recap features of a biography
Week 3	-Research, plan and write a section of a biography for an inspirational religious leader
Week 4	SATS Week
Week 5	-Plan and write a scene from the Hunger Games from another character's perspective.
Week 6	-Plan and write a diary entry for a character from the Hunger Games

## **Maths:**

In Maths, we will be revising in preparation for the SATs. Following the SATs, the children will be applying the skills they have learned to problem solving activities and investigations.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1-3	Revision: this will cover all content taught at KS2. We will be using practice SATs test papers and revision aides.
Week 4	SATs Week
Week 5-6	Maths investigations and problem solving

## **Science**

Science work this half term will be about humans and their diet.

Key knowledge taught will be:

### **Food and Nutrition**

- Know some of the dangers to the human body of eating too much salt/too many calories and being overweight
- Know that calories tell us how much energy there is in food
- Read and compare nutritional information on food labels
- Recall the importance of eating a balanced diet

### **Healthy Life-style**

- Know some of the benefits of exercise
- Know that all drugs (legal and illegal) have an impact on the human body and begin to know some of these
- Know some of the reasons sleep is important for the human body

## **Geography**

Our Geography topic this half term is Fairtrade.

Key knowledge taught will be:

- The history and key locations of cocoa production
- The impact of Fairtrade and non-Fairtrade farming around the world
- The benefits which Fairtrade farming can bring
- The ethics of different organisations
- How consumer choices affect trade

## RE

In RE, our topic is inspirational people from different religions.

Key knowledge taught will be:

- To explain beliefs about how inspirational people can bring believers closer to God
- To understand who an inspirational person is
- To identify inspirational people in children's lives
- To discuss the importance of inspirational people in different religions

## ICT

In ICT, we will be learning how to use search engines effectively and how search engines rank the results that they deliver.

## Art/DT

In art this half term, the children will be planning a sculpture through drawing and other preparatory work and then designing and carving a simple form.

## PE

In PE, the children will be preparing for Sports Day by honing their athletics skills and also learning the skills and rules to play cricket.

## Music

By May half term, all the children in the year group will have had the opportunity to learn to play the guitar.

## Dates for your diary

- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May- Cadbury World Trip.
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July- Year 6 Overnight camp on the school field.
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Legoland trip.
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July –Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July – High School Transition Days

As the SATs are swiftly approaching, we would really appreciate your ongoing support in helping the children to prepare and to revise. 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 (this will be set on Google Classroom). We will maintain our focus on spelling by continuing to teach the children 6 spellings per week based around a rule and then testing on all of the rules we have learned in the last week of the term. You can find the rules which we will be teaching this term on Google Classroom. Children should also be reading daily at home to an adult and this can be documented 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. Your child has an individual log-in for these sites and these can be found in their reading journal.

*Numeracy:* **Mathletics**, **RM Easimaths** and **Times Tables Rockstars**. Just 5 minutes working on their times tables a day would be really beneficial.

*Literacy:* **Reading Eggspress** provides games for both Reading and Grammar. **Spag.com** quizzes the children on the Key Stage 2 Grammar requirements.

Should you have any queries, please email on [yr6@downside-primary.co.uk](mailto:yr6@downside-primary.co.uk) and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 6 Team