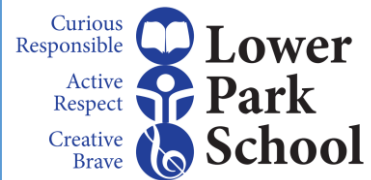


UKS2 Newsletter

Autumn 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the start of the new school year in Upper Key Stage 2.

We hope you have all had a good and relaxing summer break. The UKS2 team are excited to be welcoming the children back for the start of a new school year. Below we have included key information regarding topics, events, dates and routines that will be taking place this term. We hope that by keeping you informed, your child can make a smooth transition into his or her new class.

Teaching Staff

- Year 5 - Mrs Jones
Mrs Bailey (Teaching assistant)
- Year 5/6 - Mrs Potts & Mrs Day
- Year 6 - Mrs Chadwick
Mrs Mukherjee (Teaching assistant)

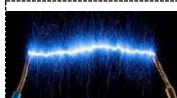
We are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Bailey and Mrs Duffy to the department.

Our Curriculum this term.

English - This term, some of the writing and reading will be focussed around our topic on North America. As writers, we will discuss and produce a recount in the form of a series of diary entries. We will plan writing by identifying audience and purpose. As a class, we will read, share and examine the text 'The Indian in the Cupboard' by Lynne Reid Banks. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will continue to be an important aspect of all pieces of work.



Maths - We will continue to follow the sequence within our maths mastery programme, Power Maths. Power Maths is a whole class mastery programme designed to spark curiosity and excitement and help teachers nurture confidence in maths. At the heart of Power Maths is the belief that all children can achieve. It's built around a child-centred lesson design that models and embeds a growth mind-set approach to maths and develop skills in fluency, reasoning, investigation and problem solving. This term's work will initially include work consolidating and reviewing Place Value.



Science - Our topics this term are 'Electricity' and 'Forces'. Therefore, we will understand movement, forces and magnets. We will explain gravity, friction, air and water resistance. We will also investigate electricity and construct simple series circuits, answering questions about what happens when we try introducing and increasing different components, for example, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors. We will learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using symbols.

Geography - During lessons, we will focus on North America. We will begin by identifying the continent, its countries, USA, Canada, Mexico and the other countries in Central America as well as identifying their capital cities. We will identify North America's environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics focusing on analysing data on climate zones to give statistics and identifying biomes and vegetation belts. We will look deeper in the physical characteristics by asking: Which is the longest river and highest mountain North America? What do they notice about the locations of the Volcanoes and Earthquakes? Is this a coincidence or are they linked?



Art & DT -As artists, we will be exploring typography and maps. We will be introducing the children to typography design and aim to explore how we can create our own fonts and designs. Linked to our topic on forces, we will investigate and use mechanical systems to construct a moving toy. We will design, make, evaluate and improve them.

RE - We will focus on the religion of Islam. We will investigate some of the ways Muslims show commitment to God, and evaluate whether there is a best way.

ICT - After revising the importance of E-Safety. We will create networks - HTML and create Platform Game in Scratch.

MFL - We will look at Languages of the World and understand how the English language has been, and continues to be, influenced by other languages.

Our topic in French is 'Getting to Know You'. We will talk about what we want to be when we grow up, and be able to explain how we are feeling today. We will use bilingual dictionaries and increase our understanding of word classes and other grammatical features of the language. The topic will include opportunities for using songs, stories, art and drama.



Music - Year 6 children will learn to appreciate live and recorded music and develop an understanding of the history of music focussing on Tchaikovsky. They will develop rhythmic patterns, and compose and perform music using the inter-related dimensions of music. Children will perform in solo and ensemble thinking about control, fluency and expression. BBC 10 Pieces - The Nutcracker (Tchaikovsky).

Year 5 children will learn to play a brass instrument with Mr. Longson. These will be provided for the children so that they can perform in school and practise at home.

During Active Listening Assemblies, we will listen to high quality music from different traditions, develop an understanding of the history of Music, including the great composers and musicians. Children will also be further developing their singing in class and assemblies.

Music Taster Evening

A meeting will be held in school with the peripatetic music. This is the ideal opportunity to meet the teachers and listen to the instruments available.

PSHE - As good and healthy citizens, we will learn about respecting and exploring what the word respect means and consider different types of behaviour and whether they are respectful or not. We will learn about our right to freedom and how this comes with responsibilities towards others. We will explore what rules are, why we need them and create a set of rules for our classroom. We will learn what individual liberty means and why we have to balance our own wants and needs with the wants and needs of others. We will consider the

meaning of representation and how different groups have been represented over time throughout history. We will also learn about inequality and how the government can step in and help in times of need. We will take part in 'Anti - Bullying week' including online bullying.

An exciting new initiative -



This year, we are introducing 'My Happy Minds' which is a complete mental and emotional wellbeing programme for Primary Schools. Once a week, all children in school will participate in activities linked to five modules - meet the brain, celebrate, appreciate, relate and engage. Each module introduces a new set of content and habits to help children build resilience, self-esteem and confidence.

PE sessions

A PE/Games kit is required on the following days.

Monday	Indoor PE	All classes
Thursday	Outdoor games	All classes



PE kit - house t-shirt, dark jogging bottoms. (This can be left in school in a named bag.)

Games kit - dark jogging bottoms, house T-shirt, trainers and spare socks. A carrier bag is useful to bring this occasionally wet and dirty kit home.

For safety reasons, please ensure children have long hair tied back and any earrings that cannot be removed will be covered with tape.

Exciting upcoming events to look out for.- more details to follow

- Thursday 15th September - Musical Instrument 'Taster Session'
- Tuesday 13th September - Kingswood presentation for parents
- Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th September - European Days of Languages
- Harvest Festival
- Parents' Evening



Lost Property

Please add names to all your children's clothing and equipment so that if lost they can be returned to them.

Homework

Maths and English/topic homework will usually be issued on Fridays. We would like this to be completed and submitted by the following Wednesday.

Maths homework will be issued online using the Mathletics website. In English/topic, children will receive homework to support tasks completed in class. They will also receive a spelling book with lists that should be learnt weekly. Children should spend an additional 20 minutes per week on these spelling tasks.

Teachers expect children to take around twenty minutes for each English/topic and maths homework to be completed. If your child is struggling to complete the allocated piece within this time, please let us know. We do



understand that many children take part in activities outside school and this is the reason we have tried to provide a fair and reasonable system so that children can continue to enjoy these clubs without too much homework pressure.

In addition, we would expect children to read on a regular basis. We still believe it is a positive and beneficial exercise for children to read aloud to parents/ grandparents/older brothers and sisters at home. Even at this stage, it is extremely helpful if you encourage discussion about the plot, characters and what may happen in the story.

Accelerated Reading

As part of our continued commitment to raising standards and progress in reading, all pupils have a reading book, which is part of the Accelerated Reading Scheme. Accelerated Reading is a scheme which levels all reading books within school. Once your child has read their book, they will be able to take an online quiz which will consolidate their understanding of the text. All children will be issued with their own login so that they can complete the quiz related to their book and also monitor their progress and targets. Within lessons, children will be given targets and rewards to maintain their focus and continue to engage their love of reading. Look out for your child's login and if there are any problems please do let us know.



Our School Rule

We should smile, be friendly and care for one another
Be well mannered and polite
Speak the truth
Be fair
Treat each other with respect and how you would like to be treated
Be the best you can be

School Values



Naturally, we expect a high standard of behaviour and attitude as it is important to achieve a happy and purposeful classroom.

Communication:

As always you are welcome to contact the school, via email, dojo, phone call, if you have any questions or queries.



If you feel that you could offer help in school in any way, for example by hearing children read, enriching a topic or displays please do get in touch.

Finally, we look forward to an exciting and successful year and we thank you for your continuous support and encouragement.

Helen Day, Jo Jones, Lucy Potts, Barbara Chadwick, Heather Mukherjee, Kath Bailey, Julie Duffy, Amelia Lomas. (UKS2 team)