

## Leopards Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Leopards' class have had a fantastic start to the school year and I am looking forward to seeing how they can impress me further this half-term. Our topic for this half-term has been chosen by the children and is 'Who were the Victorians?' We have lots of exciting things to learn as well as an excellent school trip to look forward to.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like ideas of how to support your child at home then please do come and see me.

Miss Saunders

### Topic

Our learning challenge question for this term is: 'Who were the Victorians?' During this topic we will be focusing on our skills as historians, e.g. analysing primary and secondary sources for reliability and usefulness. During this topic we will cover: Queen Victoria; how the Victorians changed Britain; jobs of Victorian children; the workhouse; the lives of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole; and how Victorians celebrated Christmas.

### Science

In science lessons this term children will learn about light. They will learn that light travels in straight lines, they will investigate shadows, they will learn how the eye works and they will learn how reflection and refraction occurs.

### Maths

This half term we will be looking at: area, perimeter and volume; improper fractions and mixed numbers; finding fractions of amounts; time; adding and subtracting fractions; multiplying and dividing fractions; Roman numerals; angles; co-ordinates; translation; and reflection.

A new National Curriculum was introduced in 2014; therefore, you may find that there are some changes in the methods taught in maths and the expectations of knowledge. These changes to the maths curriculum will be reflected in the new SATs tests which will be sat this year by Year 6. Please feel free to come and discuss these methods with me.

### English

In English this term children will be reading the well-loved English story *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson (a Victorian novel to link with topic). For this half-term children will primarily develop their non-fiction skills. The children will start by learning the context of the novel and focus on the description of the stranger in the inn. They will then produce a non-chronological report about a specific aspect of piracy. After this children will write a persuasive text under the heading, 'Should Jim travel to Treasure Island?'. Then children will develop their discussing and debating skills by debating how Jim should solve a problem. The children will then look at poetry about the sea before writing their own version. Finally, children will write a character study of Long John Silver, focusing on his character changes throughout the story.

### Class cover

**Monday PM:** Miss Bailey (PE)  
Mrs Halmshaw (Music  
and PSHE)

**Friday PM:** Miss Bailey (PE)  
Mr Denny (Computing)

### PSHE

This half term in PSHE, the Leopards will spend a short time continuing their work on British Values, including mutual respect and tolerance of different beliefs. To tie in with National Anti-Bullying week (w/c 14<sup>th</sup> November) children will then learn about bullying: what it is, why it's done and how it can be prevented.

### School Website

Please check our school website regularly to find out what the Leopards have been learning in class. I update our class page weekly with photos and videos.

<http://www.kenninghallprimaryschool.com/>

### P.E.

This year Leopards will have two P.E. lessons a week: one on a **Monday** afternoon and one on a **Friday** afternoon.

**Please make sure your children have their P.E kits in school on those days. If your child cannot take part in PE, please ensure they bring in a note explaining the reason.**

### Homework

As last year, the children will receive weekly Spelling and Maths homework.

**Spelling homework will be given out on Mondays** and spellings should be practised for a test on the following Monday.

**Maths homework will be given each Friday** and should be completed by the following Thursday. Maths homework will be linked to the learning the children have done each week and will primarily have a focus on investigations and games. In addition to the weekly maths homework, throughout the year there will be a strong focus on recall of **times tables** (it is expected under the new curriculum that children know all of their times tables up to 12x by Year 4).

For the last two weeks of each half term, children will receive a **learning log** homework linked to the topic.

### Reading Records

Please ensure that reading records are brought into school every day so that I can move children up on their reading challenge board.

Time Day	8:55 - 9:00	9:00 - 9:20	9:20 – 10:30			11:00 – 11:20	11:20 – 12:15		1:15 – 3:15	
Monday	REGISTRATION	SPELLINGS	MATHS	BREAKTIME	ASSEMBLY	VCOP/ GRAMMAR	ENGLISH	LUNCH TIME	1. PE (SB) 2. PSHE/ MUSIC (RH)	1. PSHE/ MUSIC (RH) 2. PE (SB)
Tuesday			MATHS			VCOP/ GRAMMAR	ENGLISH		SCIENCE	Guided Reading
Wed		Singing Assembly	MATHS		SPELLINGS	VCOP/ GRAMMAR	ENGLISH		Guided Reading	TOPIC
Thursday		SPELLINGS	MATHS		ASSEMBLY	VCOP/ GRAMMAR	ENGLISH		Guided Reading	TOPIC
Friday			MATHS		VCOP/ GRAMMAR	ENGLISH	1. PE 45min (SB) 2. Computin g		1. Computin g 2. PE 45 min (SB)	Assembly