

Windmill Primary School



Year 5/6 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn 2 2017 All the Fun of the Fair

Dear Parents/Carers,

To begin with, we'd like to say a huge well done to the Year 5 and 6 children. Everyone has started their new year with a positive attitude, hard work and amazing engagement. Please speak to your child all about what they learned about the Romans.



Overview of Themes and Trips and Visitors for the year

Autumn 2 – All the Fun of the Fair. We will use the fun of the fair to help us as scientists and will also be getting involved in Wind Tunnel workshops in school.

Spring Term 1 - History Detectives. We will be looking at the Shang Dynasty.

Spring Term 2 – Geography Explorers. We will be walking around the town developing our geography Skills.

Summer Terms – Conflict. At the end of the Summer Term, our learning about 'Conflict' will be enriched by our Residential Trip to France. Children who are not coming on the residential will be going on trips to Duxford, Wellingborough Museum and the National Memorial Arboretum. The approximate cost of these trips all together will be £40-£50. Details of a payment scheme to spread the cost will be sent out next term.

All the Fun of the Fair

This term, our theme 'All the Fun of the Fair' is based around the science of the funfair. The children will begin by learning about forces; they will then need to apply this knowledge to the designs of their own fairground rides. We'll be looking at the impact of air and water resistance as well as friction between moving surfaces. The children will then move on to learning about electricity. We'll be drawing our own circuits using the correct symbols; learning how the voltage of a battery affects the output; and looking at the ways different components function.

Wow Days!

We will be starting the term with a K'nex challenge. Children will be working in teams to create a working funfair ride. This will help them to see potential problems and strategies when they design and make their own funfair rides. We'll also be developing our art skills with a focus on showing speed and movement through art. Ask your child to demonstrate some of their art skills to you.

English

In English, we will continue to use the Talk 4 Writing model, where children are shown a great example of a text, learn it off-by-heart and then use it to help write their own version. We will be learning how to write an effective story with a 'flash back'. The children will manipulate the basic story plots they know so well to create an exciting, action-packed story. We will then move onto our non-fiction writing, where we will be

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writing explanation texts about how a chosen funfair ride works. This will be a great opportunity for the children to apply their science learning in a written context! We will be moving on to poetry just before Christmas with a focus on nonsense poems – we're really looking forward to seeing the children's creativity here!

Maths

In maths this term, we will be improving our understanding of fractions. The children will learn to calculate with fractions, including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children will use practical ways to show their understanding and will be talking lots about their learning – we want the children to become even better at reasoning about their mathematical learning.

To support your child with their maths learning, please discuss what they have learnt at school and ask them to show you the methods they have been using; times tables and quick-recall of the corresponding division facts is a great way to keep your mental maths skills sharp!

What we ask of the children at home

We want to encourage the children to talk as much as possible about their learning; this helps them to practise and consolidate the skills and knowledge they have gained during the school day. The following is expected of the children:

- **Read at home 3 times per week** – the children can write in their reading log themselves, but please add your initials or signature
- **Practise set spellings 3 times per week** – these could be written in their homework book or just practised out-loud
- **Practise their times tables and corresponding division facts 3 times per week**
- **Complete one piece of homework, of their choice, per week** – this is sent home on a Thursday and is due back on the following Monday



PE

PE kit should be in school every day as we are not always able to stick to our planned PE days. PE kit should include clothing suitable for the weather along with plimsolls (trainers are sometimes a better option if possible). Earrings should not be worn for PE; if your child has recently had them pierced, please write a letter to your child's class teacher and provide tape for them to wear during PE lessons. Water bottles should be brought to school with fresh water each day and taken home to be cleaned each evening. This is essential to keep children hydrated throughout the day, including during PE lessons.



Yours Sincerely

Mrs Durrheim, Mrs Brett, Mrs Brightwell and Mrs Tracey