

# LOSELEY FIELDS

## PRIMARY SCHOOL



### Welcome to Year 6!

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted with the way that the year 6 children have settled into the Autumn term. They have entered into their final year at Loseley Fields with a positive attitude towards their learning and have demonstrated a growing maturity in many different aspects of their school life. The children have already shown fantastic levels of engagement with their new topic and we are sure that they will be sharing all of their new learning with you over the coming weeks!

More detailed curriculum documents can be found on our website but a brief outline of the topics that we are covering in the Autumn term is listed below:

	Topic	Science	English	Educational Visits
<b>Autumn Term</b>	<b>Industrial Revolution</b>	Classification of Living Things	A range of both fiction and non-fiction texts; some of which will be linked to the topics being taught. Example texts include: The Sleeping Sword; Street Child; A Christmas Carol.	10 weekly workshops for science, drama, DT sport at Charterhouse school on Wednesday afternoons from 24 <sup>th</sup> October onwards. (this will take place during school time)
	<b>Votes for Women!</b>	Chemistry		

### **Educational Trips, Experiences and 'Wow' Days**

Trips are always a highlight for both pupils and staff. We are aware of the importance of giving parents as much notice as possible so will send out any information as far in advance as we can. Trips provide excellent opportunities for the children to learn a variety of skills and a level of independence, especially in the residential at the end of the year. Due to the costing of our residential trip, we will aim to keep the rest of our experiences at minimal cost. This will mean that some of these opportunities will be held in school, such as online workshops or 'wow' days hosted by ourselves. All children will be participating in the Charterhouse Workshops during school time on Wednesday afternoons where will be transported to and from by minibuses during the school day.

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## Residential

This year, we are taking the children on our residential trip during the month of May (Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>). This trip is a fantastic opportunity for children to develop their skills of independence in a fun and safe environment with their peers. We will be hosting a parents' information meeting in the coming weeks to give you further information so please look out for information regarding this in your inboxes.

## Home Learning

We are continuing to follow the home learning policy that is available to view on our school website. Our expectations for the children's weekly homework will consist of the following activities:

- daily reading to an adult (minimum of 10 minutes).
- daily phonics / high frequency words/ spellings (minimum of 10 minutes). We ask parents to practice a little each night. Older children will undertake regular checks of their spellings in school;
- weekly maths arithmetic recall activities e.g. Times tables, counting activities. We ask parents to practice a little each night. Older children will undertake regular checks of their mathematical fluency in school.

In addition to this, children will have a choice of home learning tasks to complete each half term which will be a mixture of homework style tasks, home learning style tasks and citizenship activities which encourages the children to undertake tasks for the community benefit e.g. Doing shopping for an elderly neighbour.

Each half term the children will be given 15 tasks to choose from. There is a minimum expectation to complete at least 5 tasks (KS1) and 7 tasks (KS2) and must include one from each category. Children are able to complete more tasks if they wish to do so therefore giving families the choice as to how much weekend time to spend on home learning activities.

We are continuing to use our online platform, Seesaw, for children to post their work for their teachers. Once a homework activity is completed, it can be uploaded onto the Seesaw platform and teachers will give feedback accordingly. Your children should have been sent home with a new password and log in details for their personal accounts. Should you need another log in, do not hesitate in coming to speak to your child's class teacher and they will organise this promptly.

After Christmas, in preparation for SATs, the children will be given CGP books (purchased by the school) for the different subjects (maths, reading and SPAG). Each week we will set them a number of pages to complete. These will be set on a Friday and be expected to be handed back in on a Wednesday. We will be available to support children during our 'Homework Help' session, which will be held during the school day, should they find any particular pages tricky each week.

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## English

We will be using a range of high-quality texts and stimuli as the basis for our literacy lessons this year: these use a variety of ways to explore high quality texts such as drama, visualisation and art. We will also be using a range of interesting and topic-based texts in our reading lessons, and have time dedicated to spelling and grammar. This will help to prepare children for the Punctuation and Grammar test in the Summer term. We will also be working on developing spelling by giving the children time to practise weekly.

## Maths

Mental arithmetic is of great importance, with a particular focus on times tables. Please support your child in learning their times tables regularly as secure knowledge of these makes all other areas of calculation much easier. Children are encouraged to use a range of strategies in maths. Any help is appreciated, however if you are unsure of the various strategies used for calculations please speak to me. Over the course of this year, children will be cementing their understanding of the four operations and will be learning how to use these in a range of complex and sophisticated contexts such as ratio, problems involving a range of skills and algebra. In Year 6, we put a large focus on children's arithmetic skills and fluency as well as their ability to problem solve.

## SATs

As we are sure you are aware, during the month of May, pupils in Year 6 will be taking their SATs tests. These statutory examinations are an important part of the children's final year in primary school and we want to give them every possible chance of succeeding. We will be in touch at the start of the spring term to give you more information in regards to dates, preparation and support that we will be providing as a school.

## P.E.

Year 6 will be having P.E. on Tuesdays and Fridays – please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in on these days. We suggest they keep their kit here all week to ensure that it is here when needed as these days may change. As the weather gets colder, warm tracksuit bottoms and tops will be much appreciated by the children! We would also like to remind you that, while small stud earrings may be worn in school, they are required to be removed while partaking in PE lessons. If your child struggles to remove their own piercings, please do so with them before school. The staff will not be able to remove the earrings or cover them with tape.

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## Uniform

The children have started the year looking very smart and your help with this is appreciated. Please remember that jewellery (apart from plain studs) is not allowed in school and shoes should be appropriate for the school environment. Extreme hairstyles or accessories will not be permitted. No sweets or fizzy drinks are permitted in school. Children are allowed to have fruit at break times as a snack and are encouraged to drink water throughout the day.

## Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

We would like to take this moment to remind parents that, should your children be bringing their mobile phones with them into school, that they must be handed in to an adult at the beginning of the day where they will be safely locked away. These will then be returned at the end of the day but must stay in bags until the children have left the school premises. If children are able to text or pick up phone calls on their smart watches, the same rules will apply.

We understand that, as a lot of children in year 6 are given the responsibility of walking home independently, you would like them to be contactable. However, if your child does not need to bring their phone to school, we would advise that they are left at home. Thank you for your understanding.

## Please can we also remind all parents and carers that Loseley Fields is a nut free school.

We also ask that you ensure you have the MCAS App (My child at School) which is now our communication tool.

We hope your child enjoys the year ahead. If there are any problems, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Miss Brock and Mr Phelps

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