**Welcome to Lamorna Class (Year 6)**

Firstly, a very warm welcome to Lamorna Class and can I say how much I am looking forward to working with you and your child to make this a year a fun filled learning journey. I bet it doesn’t feel possible that Year 6 has come around this quickly and it only seems a blink of an eye that you were waving them off to their first day in Reception. But here we are…

Below are a few of the key details from the meeting, to jog your memory when you get home and that will hopefully address as many of your queries and concerns as possible early in the year.

**Staff:** Mr Rob Hamshar (Teacher) and Mrs Louise Greygoose (Class TA).

Science and DT – Mr Davey Music – Mrs Eddy Miss Brant – Geography, RE and PSHE

**Our central aims are fairly simple:**

* Work and learn in a positive environment that suits the needs of all
* Work hard and focus on our most important next steps
* Give 100% effort to enable as much progress as possible
* Prepare for the many new and exciting challenges of secondary school – develop as independent, confident, positive young people
* Have as much fun as possible along the way!!!

**Weekly Organisation:**

**Autumn Term Weekly overview:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday:** | **Tuesday:** | **Wednesday:** | **Thursday:** | **Friday:** |
| Spelling test | Normal day | **AM:** Miss Brant – Geography, RE and PSHE **and** Mrs Eddy - music | PM – Mr Davey science and DT | Tables testing – 140 in 15 minutes  Big Writing – extended writing (every 2 weeks)  PM – Games and PE  (Miss Brant every 2 weeks) |
| Homework | | | | |
| Spelling Challenges for weekly spelling words (deadline Friday), a full guide for this is on the class web page in the homework section. |  | Maths homework - consolidation and support this will often be Mathletics based |  | Curriculum homework - consolidation and support |

**Homework:**

As a rough guide please follow the timetable above for homework. However, your child may be asked to complete occasional projects – more creative in-depth tasks (hopefully, enjoyable and open to personal interpretation).

The regularity and quantity of homework will increase as the year progresses in the run up to SATs and in preparation for secondary school.

**Beyond this please continue to support your child with their:**

**Daily reading** (listening but perhaps more importantly focusing on the discussion after they have read independently), it is vital that this year your child continues to develop greater reading stamina and speed while maintaining fluency. Please use your child’s School Planner every day to indicate how long they have read for and keep us informed of any positives or concerns with their reading that you have. 20 minutes a day minimum to earn Karate Reading recognition (no back-dating please!)

**Times tables** – any support with this will be greatly beneficial, all children need rapid recall of all tables and associated division facts (between 1 and 2 seconds response time). Try to keep it fun, short, regular; really push ‘Times Tables Rock-stars’ to assist with this – if you would like other resources to help with this please do ask.

**A last note on homework - your child should be able to access all homework independently, HOWEVER,** if they require support this is fine but please let us know in your child’s Planner. Also feel free to note anything you think your child requires support with resulting from the homework. Finally, if your child is finding the homework tough - first of all reinforce the learning attributes of determination, independence and resilience, but definitely avoid the onset of a full-scale ‘*Homework Armageddon’;* instead of this rather drop me a note in their Planner and we can work through the problem at school.

**Secondary School Preparation:**

In terms of personal organisation please can you ensure that responsibility for packing all the necessary equipment every day is firmly in your child’s hands – a forgotten piece of homework, PE kit, homework Planner needs to be their responsibility in order to instil independence by the time secondary school arrives. Wherever possible we will avoid the phone call home asking for forgotten PE kit (for lessons or clubs) or homework – after-all it is a key skill for secondary school and beyond to get organised and hit deadlines!

**Transition:**

Some key dates for your diary:

**Application for secondary school must be completed online at** [**www.cornwall.gov.uk**](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/) **by Monday 31st October – please ensure this deadline is met to avoid any unnecessary disappointment or stress for you and your child.**

Before the deadline, and throughout this year, the school strongly recommends that you encourage your child to take part in as many transition activities as possible – both to inform your decision and to help reduce their anxieties for next September, even if this involves activities at schools you are not applying for **e.g.** the Saturday sessions at the Penzance schools, MBA 23rd Sept and Humphry Davy 30th September.

You should receive details from the two Penzance school regarding the upcoming Taster days (a normal drop off and pick up from St Hilary as transport is provided) and Parent Open Evenings:

* **Mounts Bay Academy** – Tuesday 3rd Oct (evening 6pm)
* **Humphry Davy School**– Thursday 5th Oct (evening 6pm)

**Other local schools:**

* **Hayle**: Thursday 21st September open evening 6-8pm
* **Helston:** Thursday 21st September – Open evening: 5-8pm

We do not have such strong links with these school and therefore if you wish your child to attend their taster days please contact the schools direct for details and double check they are correct on the schools’ websites.

**SATs - Monday 14th to Thursday 17th May**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday | Reading |
| Tuesday | SPaG |
| Wednesday | Maths – Paper 1 Arithmetic / Paper 2 Reasoning |
| Thursday | Maths - Paper 3 Reasoning |

\*please reassure your children that these are purely something for us to worry about and that by the time they arrive we will have got them as well prepared as possible to show off their many academic talents!

**Year 6 Camp - Monday**

Porthpean – Cornwall Outdoors Centre, programme of activities to be confirmed.

Approximate cost at this stage £160 –an online Gateway for ongoing payment is now open.

**Finally …**

I am sure that you are probably bored you to tears with the length of this ‘note’ by now so I’ll conclude here. However, I would like to finish off by making it clear that I have an open door policy and want you to always feel welcome to discuss your child: school work, progress, concerns (however small it may seem). So rather than worrying at home pop in, phone or jot a note in your child’s Planner so we can build a successful partnership to help your child have a happy, successful year.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and working with your child to make it a year to remember, if their enthusiasm and efforts in the short time we have had together are anything to go by it will be a great year.

Kindest regards Rob Hamshar