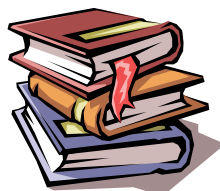


**Stag Lane Middle School
Parents' Overview
Year 7
Autumn Term 2008**



Welcome to Year 7 at Stag Lane Middle School. The Class Teachers are Mrs Queally, Miss Kenyon and Mr Salmond. Our Teaching Assistants are Mrs Raja and Miss Spoor and our Learning Mentors are Mrs Visavadia and Miss Vekaria.

This year the children will be starting work at Key Stage 3 which is equivalent to the Year 7 curriculum in Secondary Schools. The Government has introduced a new curriculum which will allow for more links and creativity across the different subjects.

Homework

Homework follows the National Guidelines which is about four hours a week. This will include Literacy and Numeracy, as well as a range of other subjects. Children are also expected to read for at least 30 minutes each night.

We will be continuing our studies through BLP and personalised learning and parents can help by ensuring that children complete homework on time and by signing their homework diaries each week.

Curriculum Coverage this Term

Maths

We will be following the Year 7 Maths Framework and building on work from the previous year. The topics will include Number, Algebra, Statistics and Geometry and Measure.

Literacy

We will begin by focusing on Analytical Writing through a Novel called Journey to Jo'Burg. We will move on to revising non-fiction writing and link this to our Science work. We will finish the term by studying the life and works of Geoffrey Chaucer.

Science

In our Science lessons this term we will be focusing on Introducing the Particle Model and Energy Transfers, in terms of Resources and Simple Circuits.

ICT

Pupils will take part in weekly ICT sessions where they will work on Using Data and Making a Leaflet.

Religious Education

This term the children will consider Identity and Community. They will also study in depth Religions such as the Baha'I faith; Buddhism, Sikhism and the Jain and Zoroastrian faiths. This will help them to develop tolerance and respect for others.

Physical Education

There will be two PE sessions per week. In the first half of the term we will focus on athletics and dance activities. In the second half of the term we will work on Invasion games and Net/Wall games.

History

The children will be studying Medieval Realms in detail. They will consider the period up to Williams succession to the throne and life in general during the period 1066 to 1485.

Geography

Children will be studying 2 units this term. One is based on Making Connections, which involves studying their locality. The second unit is called Exploring England, which looks at The UK in relation to the rest of the world. The children look at what makes us the diverse culture that we are today.

Design and Technology

The children will be involved in a project based around Medieval Castle and Village Models.

Art

Children will begin by being involved in various art activities based around Images of Apartheid. They will then move on to designing and making Medieval Book covers.

Music

The children will be working on Composing, Performing and Improvising using rhythm and notation.

PHSE

There will be Circle Time activities to promote self esteem, confidence and respect. This will also focus on social and emotional behaviour. We will continue work on Heart Start.

French

The children will cover greeting, numbers, classroom vocabulary and the family.

Outings and Events over the Year

Year 7 pupils will have Police talks this year as it is important for them before they move on to High School. They will also visit Canterbury as part of their English and History work. As part of the Science curriculum, we will visit the Science Museum and will also have a visit by a Shakespeare workshop for our Literacy work, later in the year. Children will also have the opportunity to visit Yorkshire for a week on School Journey which enhances our Geography curriculum on Limestone Features.

Setting

Children will be set during Maths lessons to ensure that they achieve their full potential in this subject but will also have a class Maths lesson for investigative work. Reviews and assessments are continuous and children may move into a different set depending on their progress.

Games and PE

Children need appropriate clothing for PE on the following days (see school brochure re. uniform):

7Q Thursday and Friday

7K Tuesday and Thursday

7S Wednesday and Friday

Please note that children must be properly equipped in order to take part in PE and Games lessons. You will receive a letter if your child has not brought in his/her PE kit for two consecutive weeks. Additionally, we also need a note from you if your child is unable to take part in physical activities as participation is compulsory.

If you need any further information please feel free to contact your child's class teacher for an appointment. Parents' Evening will be held on 7th October, 2008.