

Dear Year 6 Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year, we hope you have all had a thoroughly enjoyable summer. As we are sure you know this year is a particularly important year for your child with their SATs and preparation for secondary school. We hope for this to be a highly successful time for your child and look forward to working together to ensure the best possible progress.

This year the class will be taught by us, Mr Brown and Miss Lambourne. Whilst at times your child will be taught by one or other of us, we will both retain responsibility for the whole class.

In Year 6 we prepare the children for secondary school. We do this by encouraging greater independence and introducing expectations in line with those that they will find next year. These include expecting all children to have their correct PE kit/uniform in school at all times (see website for kit list) and handing in homework regularly and on time. High levels of attendance and punctuality are vitally important, and now monitored by the government, to ensure the children make the best progress. The children should be in class by 8:55am. However before this time we do provide Early Bird work from 8:40. Many children in the past have expressed how valuable this work has been to their learning.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Wednesday and due in the following Monday. During the Autumn Term, the children will receive one piece of topic homework (based on our class book Friend or Foe). For the children's topic homework they will be able to choose their activity from a grid provided. There are different strands covering literacy, art, DT, history, drama and ICT which the children can select from. Within each strand there are a number of tasks, again which they are able to choose from. Each task is given a different point score and the children are asked to complete a minimum of 50 points across the term. Of course if they wish to complete more than this they can! It is important to make sure that at least one activity from each stand is completed (A-E).

Additionally they will receive maths work, based on class work from the week, and spellings and times tables for their individual tests.

In order to help your child to complete their homework to the best of their ability, we are offering a homework club every Wednesday after school from 3.15 - 4.15pm. This will be held in the Year 6 classroom and a drink and biscuit will be provided. There is no charge for this club. Letters for homework club will follow shortly.

Spellings

In line with the new National Curriculum the government have now provided lists of spellings which the children are expected to know by the end of the key stage. These spellings will be tested during the SATs in May 2017. In order to support your children with learning these statutory words we have included with this letter a copy of the words list. Those words

highlighted are the ones that your child needs to learn, along with all of the Year 5/6 list. As you will see, for some children there are still many words on the Year 3/4 words list to be learnt. Please work with your children to ensure that these are all learnt before half term. Spelling will be tested every Monday and Tuesday.

Reading

In addition to the set homework we cannot stress the importance of regular reading enough. The children should be reading most evenings and discussing their texts. Please also remember to record reading in their journals provided.

Class work

Our topic this term is WW2. Lots of our work will be based around the Michael Morpurgo book *Friend or Foe*. This will form the basis for our Literacy lessons. Each week we will read a section of the book which we will then use for our reading comprehension work. Following this we will look at different styles of writing, linking our written work in with skills learnt during our SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) lessons.

During our SPAG lessons this term we will begin with revisiting word classes and technical terminology before going on to learn about modal and passive verbs, speech and the subjunctive form, clauses and punctuation for parenthesis. To assist with you supporting your child, we have attached a copy of the technical terms we will be using in class. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.

In our maths work we will begin each lesson consolidating skills already taught. Then the main focus will be on number, place value and the four operations. Following this we will be looking at factors, multiples and prime number before moving on to fraction work.

Please keep your eyes open for newsletters from the office as these will inform you of upcoming events such as class liturgies, school masses etc.

We are very much looking forward to a successful year with the children and getting to know you better. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact us. One of us will be available most afternoons after school.

Kind regards,

Mr Brown and Miss Lambourne