



Parents and Carers Information Leaflet – Autumn 1 Year 6

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Teaching Assistants – Mrs Natalie Elcock

Dear Parents and Carers

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to a new term and new academic year; I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Important Dates:

8th October - Parent workshop - Destination Reader (3.00pm – 3.20pm)

18th October - Thanksgiving/Holy Communion at St. George's Church



Attendance and Punctuality

It is important that children arrive at school by 8.55, as registers are taken and checked first thing and any absences chased up by the office staff. Remember to call and let us know if your child is going to be absent for any reason so we can record this in the register.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of attendance and punctuality. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people maximise their learning potential and have the best opportunities in adult life.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

Arriving **5 minutes** late every day adds up to over **3 days** lost each year.

Arriving **15 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **2 weeks** a year.

Arriving **30 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **19 days** a year.

General Information

PE:

This half-term, Year 6 will have P.E. on Wednesdays. On days that children have P.E. lessons scheduled, they are asked to come into school wearing their P.E. kit. They will remain in their kit for the whole day.

Homework:

Homework is set on a Friday and should be returned to school the following Wednesday. Children will be set Reading, Spelling, English and Mathematics homework each week. It is important that your child completes their homework in order to support their learning in class and to ensure that they make good progress throughout the year. Thank you for your support in this. If you would like advice on supporting your child with homework, please see your class teacher.

Please read with your child daily. Children should aim to read at home for **at least 10 minutes per day**.

Belongings:

Please label all belongings with a permanent marker, and ensure that your child has their book bag with them every day (book bags are available to buy from the school office).

Curriculum Overviews

English: This half-term we will begin by exploring the narrative text 'Skellig' by David Almond and researching the biographies of Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama. Children will learn to identify phrases and different types of clauses as well as using a range of grammar and punctuation to up level their narratives and use descriptive devices such as metaphor, simile and personification. They will also become effective note takers, adopt formal vocabulary and structure for their biographical recounts.

Spelling: This half-term, we will revise root words, prefixes and suffixes.

We will also revise Year 5/6 common exception words. Common exception words are words that do not follow the common phonetic spelling rules of the language, or where the usual rules act in an unusual way. Each week, a list of 10 spellings will be sent home, comprising of words relating to the spelling rule of the week, and also some common exception words. Please practise these with your child as they will need to be used correctly in their writing for them to reach the required standard for SATs.

Reading: Key Stage 2 will be following Destination Reader which is a carefully structured programme. The approach involves daily sessions incorporating whole class modelling, partner work and independent reading to deliver structured daily reading sessions at KS2. The programme encompasses the key principles of effective reading provision whilst instilling a passion for reading.

Science: Our Science themes this half-term are 'Electricity' and 'Animals' (including humans, all living things, evolution and inheritance). We will learn to:

- associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit
- compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches
- use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram
- identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

Computing: Computing will be covered in the second half of the Autumn Term.

Handwriting: Children will practise being consistent in the formation of their upper and lower case letters and learning the horizontal and diagonal strokes needed to join some of the letters.

Mathematics:

In the following areas, we will learn to:
Number and Place Value

- Read, write in words, order and compare numbers up to seven digits
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
- Use negative numbers in context and calculate intervals across zero
- Solve number and practical word problems
- Solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in context, deciding which operation to use and why
- Multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4 digits by a 2 digit number using formal written method
- Divide 4 digit numbers by 2 digit number using formal written method
- Interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions or by rounding
- Mental calculations including with mixed operations
- Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers
- Use BIDMAS
- Use estimation

Religious Education: In R.E. our learning question is, 'The journey of life and death?'. This unit involves pupils in investigating beliefs about life and life after death and encouraging them to reflect on and express their hopes for the future. In this unit pupils will have the opportunity to share their feelings of loss caused by separation, learn about how faith can provide believers with answers to life's most challenging and ultimate questions, and also how faith challenges our attitudes, values and commitments in life. They will consider how important it is to celebrate the lives of those they have lost and how remembering can help the healing process. They will examine their attitudes, values and commitments in the light of this learning.

History: Our learning question for History this half-term is, 'Is it ever right to fight?'. We will learn to:

- understand the united Kingdom's chronological past;
- understand the concept of civil war and why the English civil war happened;
- understand the causes of World War One;
- investigate trench warfare;
- explain the causes of why WW1 ended and the effect it had;
- understand the reasons for WW2 and place some key events in chronological order;
- research how Britain stood firm against German threat in WW2;
- explain the impact of war on people's lives and the variety of experiences;
- critically analyse propaganda.

Geography: Geography will be taught in the second half of the Autumn Term.

Art: Our art focus for this half-term will be on drawing and painting. We will learn to:

- collect and share ideas;
- explore and experiment with materials;
- develop confidence using a range of marks and strokes to draw and paint what they observe and interpret;
- understand that marks can have meanings attached to them;
- use techniques such as grids, guide lines and perspective to improve our figurative representations;
- evaluate their drawing process and outcome

Music: In music this half term we will be learning about and exploring beat and rhythm.

Physical Education: This half-term our areas of focus for PE is Gymnastics and Football. We will learn to:

- Using balance, points and transition to link gymnastic elements;
- Perform with increasing control and consistency actions at different speeds and on different levels;
- Develop strength and flexibility;
- Create and perform a sequence
- Use different parts of the foot for ball control;
- Trap, pass and tackle;
- Understand the use of space in a game of football;

PSHE: PSHE focuses will change weekly beginning with 'What helps us learn in school?' It is an opportunity for us to explore ideas, build listening skills, empathy and understanding and to learn about subjects and situations that affect us and the wider world.