



## Welcome

Welcome back to all children and parents 😊 I hope that you all had an excellent summer and enjoyed time spent with your families. We have a lot of fun learning and activities planned for the year and I'm absolutely delighted to welcome you all to Year 6.

## Reading

As your child moves into Year 6, it is more important than ever that they continue to read at home. We recommend at least 10 minutes a day and 4x a week. As usual, please make a note in reading records every time your child reads, including any comments you may have. Reading regularly with your children will help them develop fluency and expression as well as exposing them to new vocabulary. It is also important to question and discuss the book with your child to support understanding. We have a varied selection of reading books in our class library for all types of reader; this year I would like to encourage children to start broadening their reading diet and choosing more quality fiction books which will help develop their fluency, reading stamina and vocabulary and prepare them not only for SATs, but also secondary school. We have a class Amazon Wishlist and are thankful for any donations: <https://amzn.eu/aNavXUg>

## English Lessons – Reading and Writing

We teach a 30-minute reading lesson every day and focus on a class novel, non-fiction linked to learning in other subjects, and a wide range of poetry. Our reading focuses on increasing vocabulary and word knowledge, comprehension, fluency and reading for pleasure. **This term our class novel is 'Wonder' by R J Palacio** which is followed in Term 2 by **Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah**.

Writing is taught daily and we use picture books, poetry and animated films as a stimulus to base our writing on. We will be working on sentence level work – including accurate structure, tenses, vocabulary and punctuation. Those children who require more support with reading and writing will be supported in class.

## Mathematics

Maths this year will focus on mental arithmetic with set time each day for times tables fluency. In Y6 we spend a lot of time recapping mathematical concepts and basic facts as well as developing problem solving skills. **This term, we will focus on: 'place value and number', 'addition and subtraction', 'multiplication and division' and 'fractions'**. We are still encouraging children to use TT Rockstars to help with times tables (password reminders will be sent home next week). Additional Maths homework tasks will be available on the My Maths portal with tasks each week relating to the curriculum content.

## Art

This term, the class will be focusing analysing a famous painting. **Artists:** Donald MacLeod and David Hockney. We will also explore watercolour and tone.

## Science

In science this term, we will be studying the unit: **'Living things and their habitats'** which focuses on classification of living things and exploring vertebrates and invertebrates. We'll also recap on lifecycles. Following on from that, we'll be learning about the **'Human Body and Circulatory System'** in term 2.

## Humanities

This term we are focusing on **'Geography'** and will be learning all about **'mountains'**. As well as learning all about different mountain ranges around the world, we'll also look at mountains in the UK as well as learning how to identify key information on maps. Next term, we'll learn all about **Ancient Greece** in our history studies.

## Spellings

Children will continue to build on the amazing work they did last year at learning key spellings and will use a lot of visual and oral strategies to help remember words. **The full spelling list for the term is attached** to this letter and will also be stuck in spelling books each week ready for a **spelling test every Friday**. Those children who require more support with spelling will be supported in class and may receive some different/additional words. Please support your child by helping them to learn their spellings and encourage them to use the words given to them as often as possible.

## RE

Our first term focuses on the topic of: **Creation and Covenant**. Children will follow the life of Moses and we'll learn specifically about the 10 Commandments. Next term our topic is: **Prophecy and Promise**.

We will soon be looking for members of our class to be part of this year's school **Chaplaincy Team**, too!

## Music

In this term's unit, we will look at 'What makes us happy?' and explore the history of Jazz music.

## PE

**All children** are expected to join in PE as it helps to develop fine and gross motor skills as well as improving their mental and physical health.

**This term, Year 6 will be having swimming lessons at Kingswood Leisure Centre starting from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September. The full dates for these sessions are as follows: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> October, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November.**

Outdoor PE with Mr Croucher will take place as usual on a **Tuesday afternoon**. Indoor PE will be on a **Monday afternoon**.

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school kit for every lesson - these can be worn on PE days. **Reminder: no earrings to be worn for PE and hair should always be tied up.**