

Year Six Autumn Newsletter

It has been a pleasure to welcome all the children into Year Six! We are really looking forward to the coming year, and we hope that the children will find Year Six challenging, enriching, and fun!

Although there is always so much to do at the start of a school year, we are aiming to establish routines as soon as we can.

We are extremely excited about our new Projects for this half-term, which are related to learning about 'The Windrush' and a local study of our town Haverhill. The children will learn about the history of the Windrush including why Caribbean settlers came to United Kingdom and the impact of Adolf Hitler. In Geography, we are learning about the locality of Haverhill and West Suffolk and we will be learning about different landmarks in the town. Alongside this, we will be exploring different styles of drawing in Art. In Science, we will be learning about living things and their habitats and then after half-term, we will be learning about light.

In our Computing learning, we will be learning about branching databases. This will be an exciting unit of learning for the children because they learn about different inputs, processes, and outputs of electrical devices. The children will also have the opportunity to look at and experiment with different software throughout the term.

French and Music will continue to be taught on a weekly basis and this term we will be learning about how to describe each other, pets and musical instruments in French. We will be learning about Pharrell Williams' infamous song 'Happy' in Music and will be learning the song and how to play the song too on the glockenspiels.

Physical Education

We are fortunate to have Mr Jones and the Prestige Coaches to teach Year Six for Physical Education (PE), which will enhance their learning in these areas. PE is on Friday afternoons, and we ask that all children bring their full Place Farm PE kits to change into, after lunchtime. As the children are in Year Six, it is important that they are excellent role models for the rest of the school.

Homework

Please ensure that your child completes their homework and practises their spellings every week.

In addition to this, your child should be reading every day and regularly discussing the text and vocabulary used. You will need to sign your child's planner weekly, although it is the children's responsibility to ask you to do this. Furthermore, please encourage your child to take responsibility for their planner and reading books. There is a cost to replace them and an expectation that your child has them in school each day, to maintain communication all year round.

Timetable

We would like the children to be aware of the expectations on each day of the week, as set out below:

| Day | Expectation |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | Planner check |
| Tuesday | Homework handed in to class teachers or submitted through Class Dojo |
| Wednesday | N/A |
| Thursday | Spellings test |
| Friday | Homework and spellings to be set Physical Education in the afternoon |

Communication

We understand that there are times when there is a need to speak directly to the class teacher. However, we would like to remind parents that it is vital to consult the office to arrange an appointment. We request that parents do not come up to the classrooms in the morning, because it is important that we settle the children in to their daily routines. In addition to this, please feel free to write any notes in your child's planner for our attention, and we will ensure that we act on this at our earliest convenience.



Transitioning to Secondary School

This term, the local Secondary Schools will be hosting a variety of Open Evenings to share their schools' values, ethos and curriculum. It would be fantastic for you and your child to attend as many of these Open Evenings as possible, to give you a clear understanding of the excellence provided across the town and local area. To help prepare the children for Secondary School, we will really focus on independence and helping the children to take responsibility for their attitude to learning and their approach to homework. In line with this, we will be having PSHE sessions to support the children with emotional and physical changes throughout the academic year.

Attendance and Punctuality

We look forward to working with you this year, and we value your role in supporting your child's learning. This is an important year for the children, so we would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school on time, demonstrates good attendance, has plenty of sleep and has an excellent attitude towards their learning.

Mr Wade, Mr Gudgeon and Miss Lister