

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the new school year, it is lovely to have all of the children back together. We have now launched into our regular timetable of lessons. We would like to share with you the main topics for this term and to provide you with some general information about organisation and expectations in Year 6.

### Curriculum

This term, in English, we have launched straight into Victorian London and the world of Sherlock Holmes. For Maths, we will be looking at place value, the four operations and fractions. Maths lessons will consist of fluency, reasoning and problem solving. In addition to this, we will be developing our arithmetic skills through early bird maths (a chance to break down the arithmetic test and have a specific focus for the week). Children will complete a weekly arithmetic test, which they will bring home to share with you. We would strongly recommend your child continues using Times Table Rock Stars to develop their times table fluency and knowledge.

<i>Autumn 1</i>	<i>Autumn 2</i>
<b>Science</b> – Evolution and Inheritance	
<b>Geography</b> – Economic activity, natural resources and trade links (History in spring term)	
<b>Computing</b> – Online Safety	<b>Computing</b> – Coding
<b>Art</b> - Wildlife	<b>DT</b> – Food celebrating cultures and seasonality
<b>PSHE</b> – Me and my relationships	<b>PSHE</b> – Valuing difference
<b>RE</b> - Imagery	<b>RE</b> - Salvation
<b>PE</b> – Netball	<b>PE</b> – Tag Rugby

### Homework

This year, children will not be given a green homework book. Instead, we will be using a combination of paper and CPG KS2 SATs buster books. We find these books useful in preparing children for SATs and as a tool to help be responsible for which task needs to be completed each week. Once the books have arrived, the children will record the due date at the top of each test. Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in the following Friday. Several pieces of homework (Reading comprehension, SPAG and maths) will be given out weekly to ready the children for secondary school. Children will be expected to complete all tasks set in this given time frame. Please be aware that some of the content will not have been taught to the children yet and they may need to ask or research some concepts if they are not sure. Homework will be class marked and rewarded with gems and merits. We appreciate that sometimes children need a helping hand so please encourage them to come and ask if they are unsure of a task. Each piece of homework should take no longer than ten minutes.



### **Reading Journal**

Reading expectations continue to be the same - we will expect children to read 4 times a week and for at least 15 minutes per session to build up reading stamina ready for secondary school. We are encouraging the children to widen their range of genres. Your child will either be reading a school library book or a book from the class library. We would like to use the reading journals to capture the breadth of reading. For example, it could be a summary of what they have read; questions raised from the reading; a prediction of what might happen next; words they have 'magpied' glossary of unknown words etc. Furthermore, we have attached a suggested reading list for Year 6, which we hope you will find useful. We will also be trialling an online reading journal, which can be found on Purple Mash under the 'Serial Mash' section. We will explain to the children how to use it and we will collect feedback from parents/carers/children as the year goes on. Please ensure your child has their reading journal in school every day. They will be collected in and checked on a weekly basis and rewarded with gems and merits.

### **Spelling**

The children will be encouraged to attach/record their weekly spellings in their reading journal as well as keep a record of their personal spelling progress (Year 5/6 words) through the spelling lists in the middle. Please ensure the reading journal is in school daily. The children will be sent home with spellings linked to the rule they have been taught that week. We would encourage children to use the different strategies to practise at home and they will be given extra opportunities to practise these in school too.

### **PE**

This term, PE will be on a Monday, Tuesday and a Friday. We have a sports coach coming into school on a Monday to deliver sessions based around teamwork. Children need to come to school dressed in their PE kit including wearing their school jumper. They may bring an additional layer to wear for the session. All earrings should be removed or covered with tape on these days. Please provide your child with tape for covering earrings.

### **Fresh air Friday**

We will be sending further information regarding outdoor learning later this term. We will begin going outside on a Friday, but as your child will already be dressed in PE kit you will not need to send them with anything else other than a waterproof coat to enable us to go outside in all weather conditions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come and speak to any of the class teachers. You can also contact us via email at [Year6@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:Year6@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk).

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Hayward, Mrs Neumann  
Year 6 Teachers