



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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12th January 2024

Dear Parent,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. It is good to see that all the children have returned to school full of enthusiasm, ready for a hard-working and exciting term ahead. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 6 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 6 and in the first half-term there will be an overarching theme of The 'Tudors'. We will be learning about when the Tudor time occurred and why it was a significant turning point in British History. We will find out about the key personnel of the Tudor Times, such as Henry VIII and his six wives. Within this topic we will also explore the War of the Roses. We will be visiting Hampton Court Palace to further enhance our learning. In the second half-term, our overarching topic is called 'Brilliant Bodies' and this particularly links to our Science unit of work.

Our timetable this term will have an English and Mathematics focus during the morning, as in previous years, with foundation subjects taking place during our afternoon lessons. In addition, throughout the year your child will take part in curriculum days that enhance their learning experience. This term Year 6 will be visiting Hampton Court Palace and having a Curriculum Day based on the Tudors.

In **English** we will begin by studying Macbeth by William Shakespeare and how to write balanced arguments and playscripts. We then explore non-chronological reports before finally moving on to focus on writing commentaries. Throughout all of these topics, we will be extending our Grammar and Punctuation knowledge.

In **Mathematics** we will be working through National Curriculum objectives for Year 6. There will still be a focus on number and place value, using both mental and written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be studying Ratios and Algebra, understanding decimal place value and using decimals within calculations and problem solving, and learning how to confidently use and interpret percentages. In addition, our measurement topic will focus on Area, perimeter and volume and we will conclude the term looking at how to interpret and use various statistics.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Light Animals including Humans: Circulatory System / Healthy Bodies
History	The Tudors
Geography	Climate / Geographical Systems
Computing	Web page design Computer Science and Programming
Art	Drawing – Tudor Portraiture
Technology	Cooking and Nutrition – Celebrating Culture
PE	Games – hockey and basketball; Health-related exercise; Leadership
RE	Do clothes express beliefs

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	Is the resurrection important to Christians?
Music	A New Year Carol You've Got a Friend
French	Manger de Bouger Cultural French
PSHE	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me

Homework

This term, homework will be set and submitted on Seesaw. In Year 6 the children will receive the following homework:

English homework will be set on a Monday and is expected to be returned by Wednesday;
Mathematics homework will be set on a Wednesday and is due in on the Friday.

When required, Foundation Subject homework will be due in one week from being handed out and may be given out once a half term.

Homework set is based on class work and gives pupils the opportunity to practise the skills learnt in class and show if they have understood and retained the information from lessons. It is important that homework is completed each week, so that children can show us where they can shine and equally where they are having difficulties, so we can continue to support them effectively as we move nearer to the SATs.

Spellings will also be set on Spelling Frame and tested in class. Spelling Frame allows pupils to practise their spellings using the interactive games and activities. The Spelling words will be given to the children on a Friday with a test the following Thursday. These words are set based on the spelling ability of each pupil as seen in their class work.

Children will continue working on their Numeracy Passport objectives, which will include weekly times tables tests. They will be expected to practise their passport objectives and times tables regularly at home. The children should use their login for Times Table Rockstars to support their fluency and accuracy in a fun way.

This year, we continue to focus on reading (especially reading for enjoyment) and are looking forward to finding out about what exciting books the children enjoy. Please make sure that the children have a book they are reading at home and can bring to school each day. Continue to listen to your child read daily, as not only will this aid their learning considerably, it will also increase their enjoyment of reading. Discuss the books that they are reading and encourage your child to choose more challenging literature in order to continue their development. We are using paper based reading diaries to record daily reading. It is vital that these are in school every day.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 6 are as follows:

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| 1. Pig Heart Boy by Valerie Blackman | 7. Holes by Louis Sachar |
| 2. Time Travelling with a Hamster by Ross Welford | 8. Once by Moritz Glietzman |
| 3. The Arrival by Shaun Tan | 9. Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahamachari |
| 4. Clockwork by Phillip Pullman | 10. A Boy Called Hope by Lara Williamson |
| 5. River Boy by Tim Bowler | 11. The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson |
| 6. Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell | 12. Liar and Spy by Rebecca Stead |

PE and Games

The children will need a full, named PE kit (T-Shirt, shorts, socks, plimsolls/trainers). Both classes will have Games and PE on Wednesday afternoons. Children will be expected to bring in and leave their kits in school for the entire half term. As a reminder, they will be required to wear trainers for outdoor PE.

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term as part of our PSHE curriculum, your child will be taught about goal setting and how to set and achieve realistic goals. They will also be talking about their dreams and ambitions, and how to overcome challenges. After the half term break, the focus will switch to being healthy. Pupils will learn about the importance of a healthy diet, keeping clean, regular exercise and keeping themselves safe.

Children will be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Courage, Love, Creation, Resilience, Determination, Hope, Friendship and Curiosity. In addition, children will learn about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and some of the key Easter traditions.

As always, we will be encouraging the children to think about others and this term, they will be taking part in Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief.

One of the highlights in our Spring Term calendar is our International Week. During this week children across the school have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, countries and traditions. They learn about the importance of respecting and valuing others and that they are part of a bigger world. We usually have a different focus each year for this week and this year our focus will be artists from across the learning about a given country and its traditional foods.

Pupils in Year 6 will also have the opportunity to develop their self-confidence and public speaking skills as they will take part in drama-based activities to support the curriculum learning where they will perform in front of small groups or the class.

As part of our Tudor topic, Year 6 are looking forward to visiting Hampton Court Palace on 24th January and following this up with a curriculum Day in School where the children will have an opportunity to come into school in Tudor dress.

Finally, across the school, pupils will continue to perform key roles to improve their leadership and / or teamwork skills and also to develop a sense of responsibility. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Year 6, pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers
- JRSOs
- House Captains
- Sports Leaders
- Peer Mentors
- Jobs in school lunch times as required

Please keep an eye out on our Social Media pages, or in the half-termly newsletter for details of the above events and also information about additional opportunities that the children at SMAS experience as part of our PSED Curriculum and school vision.

If you ever wish to discuss anything about your child, please make an appointment through the office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Richardson and Mrs Vaidya
Y6 Class Teachers