



Dear children, parents and carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a brilliant summer holiday and enjoyed spending some quality time together. I hope the children feel refreshed after a well-deserved break and ready for an exciting but challenging year in Class 6. I'd like to say a massive thank you to you all for my end of term gifts - I was blown away with your generosity and kindness. Thank you!

Miss Harrold and Mrs Dickson are our Teaching Assistants this year and they both have excellent relationships with the children already. Mr Tanner will be teaching Class 6 PE on Wednesday afternoons so please ensure your child comes to school in PE kit (navy blue shorts/skorts, joggers and house colour top only please). I am very excited to share with you that for this half term Year 6 PE lessons will also include fencing with Neil Bromley from Swindon Fencing Club.

This term our value is 'Generosity' and worship time in school will focus on this. We are starting the year with the whole-school learning metaphor 'Our common home: love your neighbour as yourself.' We will be reading the book 'Dear Earth' by Isabel Otter and considering how wonderful and diverse our world is yet how we are damaging it. We will also be investigating climate change, climate justice and how evenly the world's resources are distributed across continents.

In English this term, we will be reading the book Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. It is a brilliant novel set in a dystopian world and one that I know the children will love! In Maths we will be focusing on place value: we will be looking at numbers up to 10,000,000 as well as rounding and negative numbers.

Home Learning

Homework this year will focus on reading and maths. Homework will go out on a **Wednesday** and will be due in on the **following Tuesday**. The first homework of the term will go out on **Wednesday 13th September**. Like last year, your child will bring home a Home Learning Book for the homework to be completed in.

Maths

For Maths home learning, children are expected to complete the task set; this will be related to the work the children have learnt in lessons. The homework will be differentiated and the children can choose the level they wish to complete. Please encourage the children to challenge themselves but to also work as independently as possible.

Reading

Our expectation is that children read each day for at least 20-30 minutes. Children can read independently or to an adult daily. We expect every child to record their daily reading so that we can keep track of their progress. Please support your child by reminding them to complete this task each day - thank you. There are bronze, silver and gold reading bookworms available to earn so hopefully your child will be earning one in the very near future if they haven't already!

Spellings

Spellings will work a little differently this year. The children will continue to practise spelling rules in school and build them into their writing (as per the overview and in line with the National Curriculum) but will not bring home spellings to practise for weekly tests as they did previously. We are looking to try and apply their spelling into their free writing rather than just through set weekly tests and really focus on the rules. There will be spelling tests in school based on these rules but they will not be set weekly and we will analyse the rules they need to work on. You can still support with this at home as the children still have access to Spelling Shed via <https://play.spellingshed.com>. It would be great for the children to continue to use this platform to familiarise and consolidate Year 5/6 spellings and rules as they will use these in class during the year.

Showbie

Once again, we will be using Showbie to communicate information for parents. The code is the same as last year: **TF7AE**.

General Reminders

Forest School sessions: Tuesday 5th September, Tuesday 3rd October, Tuesday 14th November and Tuesday 12th December.

Please add these dates to your calendar so your child remembers their kit! ☺

Thank you again for all of your support and here's to a brilliant year!

Mr Hockaday