

Dear children, parents and carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a brilliant summer holiday and enjoyed spending lots of quality time together. I hope that the children are ready for an exciting but challenging year in Class 6. This term, our Christian value in focus is 'Thankfulness' and worship time in school will focus on this. We have started the year with the whole-school learning metaphor 'Different together' and the children will be considering what this means to them and others. They will also be exploring how they see the world, their place in the community and thinking about their personal goals for this academic year. In English this term, we will be reading the book 'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick. It is a fantastic novel which is set in a dystopian world - I am sure the children will really enjoy it. 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 investigating negative numbers.

A quick message from Mrs Saville - 'Wow, your children are amazing - what a fantastic Year 6 they are! I AM SO IMPRESSED!'

PE

Mr Tanner will be teaching Class 6 PE on Friday afternoons so please ensure your child comes to school in PE kit (trainers, navy blue shorts/skorts, joggers and house colour top only).

Fencing (starting on Tuesday 8th September)

I am excited to share with you that starting on Tuesday 4th November, Year 6 PE will also include fencing with Neil Bromley from Swindon Fencing Club; the children had a taster session at the end of Year 5 during Sports Week which I know they really enjoyed. The 6-week fencing course for Year 6 (at cost of approx. £10 per session per child) for Year 6 is funded by the school as part of our affordability project so no additional cost to parents but a brilliant opportunity for our Y6 children to achieve level 1 fencing. It may even lead to some children taking up the sport and joining the local Cricklade fencing club outside school. **The sessions will run on the following dates: Tuesday 8th September, Tuesday 15th September, Tuesday 22nd September, Tuesday 29th September, Tuesday 6th October and Tuesday 13th October.** Please note the children will continue to have PE with Mr Tanner in addition to Fencing on Tuesdays with Mr Bromley.

Home Learning

Homework this term will be set via Doodle. The expectation is that children spend 5 minutes a day on Doodle (Maths, English and Spell) staying in the 'green zone'. The programme is tailored to your child's needs and the 'little and often' approach with games, rewards, and streaks make home learning fun. Homework after Christmas will change to paper form with the children having weekly arithmetic papers and reading comprehensions to complete in preparation for SATs and secondary school.

Reading

In Year 6, our expectation is that children read each day for at least 20 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 and weekly reading merits so hopefully your child will be earning one in the very near future if they haven't already!

Affordability

Year 6 will be going on a residential trip to London (18th - 21st May). The cost will be approximately £320 which includes food, accommodation and a range of amazing experiences including watching a West End show and white-water rafting. We do our absolute best to organise everything ourselves in order to keep the trip as affordable as we can. A letter with more details about the trip will go out later in the year with a deposit request.

Some news...

My fiancée and I are expecting our second child at the beginning of October...therefore, at some point later on in the term I will be not be in school while I take a short period of paternity leave. During this time, Mrs Dyminski will be helping to cover the class and the children will have their Art Days during this period, as well as their normal timetabled lessons.

Dates for the term:

Forest School sessions: Tuesday 8th September, Wednesday 30th September, Tuesday 10th November

PE: Friday afternoons **Fencing:** Tuesday 8th September, Tuesday 15th September, Tuesday 22nd September, Tuesday 29th September, Tuesday 6th October and Tuesday 13th October

Art Days: TBC (during Mr Hockaday's paternity leave)

Stay and Share session: Thursday 12th November at 2.45pm

End of year dates for your diaries:

Monday 19th July 9am Heroes & Heroines, 1.30pm Holy Cross Leavers' service and 6pm Leavers' production evening performance

Tuesday 20th July 10.15am Leavers' production final performance (parents only) and 1.30pm Y6 Rounders v Parents match

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