

Year 6 Newsletter



Class teachers: Mr Beard (6MB), Mrs Saint & Mr Murrell (6SM)

Other staff: Mrs Andrews & Mrs Tomsett

Welcome to year 6. We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer – the children seem rested and full of energy to take on what promises to be a busy but exciting school year. This term we have already made a promising start to the many ongoing and cross-curricular learning projects and this is a theme we would like to emphasise right away. We will be studying a book called 'Cloud Tea Monkeys' which will underpin much of our learning in English, science, geography, art and design technology. The children will be experiencing a mixture of practical 'hands-on' learning together with a critical, philosophical approach. Our curriculum is designed around questions with the over-arching question of 'What if a picture told a thousand words?' providing another link across the children's learning. Here's to a dynamic and varied term!

Our Day

Here is the outline of what a typical day will look like.

8.50–9.15 : GPS/maths

9.15–10.15 : English or maths

10.15–10.30 : Worship

10.30–10.45 : Break

10.45–11.15 : Guided reading

11.15–12.15 : English or maths

12.15 : Lunchtime

Afternoons: Foundation subjects
e.g. Science, PE, Computing, Art,
Geography and History.

Critical Thinking & Principles of Learning

There will be times when information is right or wrong and answers are definite. We are encouraging the children to be as independent and critical in their learning as they are able to be. We will be urging them to reflect on their learning and give us feedback on what they feel has been successful.

In addition to this, we want them to use their knowledge and skills to develop enquiry, pose and answer questions and formulate and express their own views. By challenging appropriately and considering different points of view alongside the norm, we believe they will be better placed for deeper understanding.

Breaktimes

As the weather is changeable, please could all children come to school with a warm/waterproof coat. Children may also bring wellies in to use on the field over the winter months, these can be stored on our school welly rack. We would also ask that the children come with a snack for breaktime – we encourage fruit or vegetables as a healthy way of keeping them going through a busy morning.

Reading

We have regular 'guided reading' sessions in the class where the children are encouraged to really probe and think critically about book themes and content. We'd love them to keep reading regularly at home (or to be read to) and are encouraging, through the reading passports, a varied diet of authors and content. We ask that they write a book review when they have finished a book.

PE Days

This term we will have PE and games on Mondays and Thursdays and Fridays. However, we'd like to keep things flexible, especially as the weather becomes less predictable and would ask that a PE kit is kept in school all week. Outdoor trainers and indoor plimsolls are the recommended footwear and tracksuit bottoms for the colder weather.

Equipment

Please could you ensure that your child has the following equipment for school:

- Handwriting pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Pencil case
- A reading book

Home learning

The children will have home learning books and a set of key skills for English and maths with suggested tasks. Regular and frequent practise is a proven way of embedding these essentials and we will be feeding back regularly on the home learning completed. We encourage extra research into any of our topics as and when this fits in with parents.

Collaboration

We see ourselves very much as a year group and there will be many opportunities for the children and teachers to work in and with both classes. Whilst being an enjoyable way of working, this also helps get the children used to a variety of learning opportunities and teaching styles as well as different friendship groups.

Please remember your **water bottle every day** and check that all your **uniform, PE kits** and belongings are **clearly labelled with your name**.