



Autumn Newsletter

Year 6



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 6. I hope you and your children have had a wonderful summer holiday. I have an exciting term planned for your child and hope they will enjoy learning through the varied experiences we are going to have.

Year 6's Topics and Themes

The autumn term's main history topic will be *Black and British*. Within the topic, we will explore the significant impact that black people have had on British history and will include an exploration of how the first black people on the island arrived during the Roman period up to and beyond the events of the Empire Windrush.

Maths will be split into four areas: place value; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; fractions; and converting units. In maths, times tables are vitally important if the children are going to make good progress. Using internet games or board games can help reinforce them in a fun and enjoyable way - links have been made available on our website.

Throughout the term, we will be concentrating on improving our standards of presentation, spelling and the use of language. The children will also be encouraged to read a wide range of texts to continue improving their fluency, understanding and deduction skills. I would be grateful if you would continue reading with your child for enjoyment and to ensure they are reading with understanding and fluency. As with previous years, the fantastic Excalibur Library will be available for your children to use. If you do have any books you wish to donate to the library, please bring them in to the school office.

Our first science topic this term will be concerned with living things and their habitats, focusing on classifying animals into groups based on observable characteristics. Throughout the year, we will be focusing on the skills required to work scientifically, with particular focus on the five types of enquiry: observation over time; pattern seeking; identifying, classifying and grouping; comparative and fair testing; and research using secondary sources.

Practical information

School starts at 8:50am and finishes at 3:20pm. On arrival, your children will have early morning activities to complete, which will normally take the form of arithmetic practice. Please ensure your child arrives promptly at 8:50am so they can maximise their learning time. It is essential that they develop good timekeeping in preparation for high school and that they are punctual to each and every day.

We feel that it is important for children to drink water throughout the day. Therefore, children may bring bottles of water each day as long as the bottle has a secure lid. These should be taken home every night for washing and refilling.

Please make sure that all your child's clothes are clearly labelled with their name - any lost property can then be easily identified.

PE and School Sport

Our PE lessons will take place on Wednesday and Friday. However, to make the best of good weather, please make sure your children have PE kit in school throughout the week as the day of PE may change occasionally. During the colder months, your children should bring additional layers on top of their school PE kit. This can include tracksuit trousers and a light jacket or jumper. We will endeavour to go out regardless of the weather.

Online Communication and Homework

Seesaw and Class Dojo

This year, your children will receive login details for Seesaw. Seesaw will be used for the setting of homework as well as the occasional sending of whole-class messages. Please ensure you have logged into Seesaw by Monday 9th September 2024. Class Dojo will be used for the rewarding of behaviour for learning points during lessons and around school. Your children will not need a login for Class Dojo: dojo points received will be converted to house points at the end of each half term.

Please note: the vast majority of homework will be set as a task on Seesaw. Paper copies are also available on request.

Spelling

A word list for the weekly spellings will be sent home every week via Seesaw with spelling tests taking place the following week. It is essential that your children practise their spellings thoroughly. The Year 5 & 6 Spelling List can also be accessed from the Year 6 class page on the website. I have also included a copy of the Year 1 & 2 and the Year 3 & 4 spelling lists for those who would benefit from these as well.

Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension homework will be given every week and is due the following week. Children can respond to this homework by taking a photograph of their work and uploading to Seesaw.

Maths

Maths homework will be set every Friday; the due date will be clearly displayed on Seesaw.

I am looking forward to a fabulous year working with you and your child. Should you wish to speak to me, or arrange a meeting, please speak to me in person or email contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk.

Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Yours sincerely

Mr. D Hancock - Class Teacher

