



Tuesday 13th September, 2022

A Warm Welcome to Year 6!

Dear Parents/Carers,

HELLO AND WELCOME BACK! We hope you have all had a wonderful, relaxing summer break. We are now ready and raring to go for what we hope will be an exciting year ahead, so we wanted to begin by introducing some of the expectations and information that we hope you will find useful for your child's new start in Y6.

This letter contains most of the important information that you will need to be aware of, but if you do have any further questions, then please bring these along to the upcoming '*Y6 Meet the Teacher*' meeting on Tuesday 20th September at 3:20pm in Year 6.

The Year 6 Team

Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Lysons
Mrs. Pritchard

Homework Menus

Homework Menus will be set each half-term and shared via Seesaw, however please inform us as soon as possible if you are unable to access this electronically at home and we will provide a paper copy of the menu with a homework book. The menu will contain a variety of learning tasks to cover the breadth of the Y6 curriculum. Homework tasks are intended to be as open-ended as possible, allowing the children time to reflect on their learning in class in a creative way and for the children to decide on how they will collect, record and present their home learning. We expect that **at least one** activity will be completed on the menu each week and these can be done in any order that you wish – please upload these onto your child's Seesaw or complete in their homework book by Monday. Homework activities will be shared and checked in class on a Monday afternoon and completed activities will be celebrated. Please can we ask that parents/carers positively support us in encouraging the children to complete one activity weekly, as it is fundamental to the work being covered in class and inspires the children to independently take ownership of their own learning – a skill that will be essential to the transition to secondary school.

Ongoing homework...

The following activities are a part of 'ongoing' homework to run alongside the homework menus, throughout the year:

- **Reading** – at least 15 minutes of reading aloud to an adult, x4 occasions per week. Reading records will be checked every Friday in class.
- **Times Tables** – revision of times table facts is the key to unlocking learning in maths, so please access Times Table Rockstars regularly at home.
- **Spellings** - 'key' spellings will be sent home weekly to learn and perfect, ready for a spelling test the following Friday.

Home/School Readers

We place a great emphasis on reading at St. Andrew's Methodist and feel it is very important that the children read to an adult at home, as often as possible. We ask that reading happens at least four times per week. Reading records should be signed by parents/carers to indicate the page reached and any relevant comments to indicate how your child read. **Book bags need to be brought into school every day.**

Uniform

Please ensure that all items of uniform, including: PE kits, outdoor coats, book bags and footwear are clearly labelled with your **child's full name** to avoid lost or misplaced items. It is essential that ALL garments are named by parents/carers at home. It is compulsory that the correct uniform is worn to school every day. Trainers are strictly not allowed. Children should also not come to school wearing motif/logo/designer items – all clothing should be plain and represent the school's uniform policy. Rucksacks must also not be sent to school, as there is no space for these in the Y6 cloakroom.

PE

School PE kits need to be sent in on a Monday morning, so they are readily available for PE each week. We encourage PE kits to be sent in a named, navy draw-string bag. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit: **plain black pumps, a plain white t-shirt and plain navy shorts.** As outdoor PE is part of the curriculum, as the weather starts to get colder, it would be a good idea for the children to have a plain navy sweatshirt and jogging pants in their PE bag - please ensure that your child understands that this is what you would like them to wear instead of shorts/T-shirt and notify a member of staff to this as well. It is most practical if the children keep their PE kits in school, therefore they will be sent home for washing on the final day

of each half-term (*unless requested otherwise*). Long hair will need to be tied up and all jewellery removed for PE.

Uniform/PE kits/reading book bags and PE bags can all be purchased at the school office

Hot weather and Suncream

Please ensure that during periods of hot weather, the children come to school with suncream applied, as there will be periods when they are outside. **We are unable to put suncream on the children in school.** You are more than welcome to send in sun hats and suncream, but again please ensure that these are clearly labelled with your child's name and do notify a member of staff. Can we also ask that you demonstrate putting on suncream appropriately with your child at home, if you wish to send in a bottle for them to apply, so they are aware of how and where you would like them to put it on.

Water Bottles

The children are able to access water during the school day, as a way of rehydrating themselves. We ask that if you would like your child to have access to drinking water, then you provide a filled water-bottle that is labelled with your child's name. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide water-bottles in school. Please ensure water bottles only contain water, as other forms of drink (e.g. juices) are forbidden.

Attendance and Lateness

It is essential that children are in school on time. Many lessons begin at 9:00am, so being here promptly for **8:55am** is vital to your child's learning success. School finishes **promptly at 3:20pm** - again please ensure that collection is punctual, as it can be quite distressing for children if not. Please always ensure that the school office is contacted and aware if there will be a late collection or if somebody different is picking-up your child at the end of the day, so relevant staff can be informed. We follow this procedure to ensure that all children are kept safe and go home with the correct adult. Important parent/carer letters will be sent home via Seesaw or in your child's book bag, therefore please can we ask that these are checked and emptied every evening, so significant information is relayed between home & school.

Y6 Knowledge Organisers

Knowledge Organisers will be sent out every half-term, so that you are kept informed of the learning focuses and topics for your child. These will be uploaded to Seesaw and the class blog on the school's website. Again, a paper copy of this can be provided at your request should you be unable to access the internet.

Birthdays

We love celebrating birthdays in Y6! If you would like to send in sweets for sharing with the class, then please can we remind you that we are unable to give out any lollipops or chocolates/treats that contain nuts. Updating school with any dietary requirements or allergies for your child is crucial, so please ensure that this information is shared with immediacy.

Wet Play

Occasionally, when the weather is severe (too wet or poses danger risks to go outside for our playtimes), we will host a 'wet play' session inside that covers the usual length of the break. We ask that in this time the children complete a fun activity at their table, which could be in the form of completing mindfulness colouring, puzzles (e.g. sudoku), wordsearches/cross words. Please can we ask that you send your child into school with an activity book for this occasion that they can store safely into their own desk, ready for any wet plays. Please name these.

Lledr Hall Residential

All our Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to visit Lledr Hall during the Summer term next year. Lledr Hall is Salford City Council's residential adventure activity Centre. It is located in the heart of the Snowdonia National Park with the mountains, rivers and lakes on our doorstep. It is the perfect location for going off and having adventures in the great outdoors. We will be sending out all relevant information in due course.

SATs 2023

The Year 6 SATs will take place during the week commencing Monday 8th May 2023. Further information regarding SATs week will be sent out next year.

All that is left to say is...

Finally, we hope this information has been beneficial to you.

We are very much looking forward to working with yourselves and your child in Y6 and hope that they have a happy, productive and rewarding year - and we will do all we can to ensure this!

Thank you in advance for your continued support and here's to a fabulous year!

Mrs. Smith