



St John's C of E (Aided) Primary School

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Year 6 – Welcome Back Newsletter 4/9/2018

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome your child back after the summer break and we are looking forward to the exciting and busy year ahead.

In this letter we will outline some key messages including PE and library days; we will outline our expectations with regards to home learning and reading and we will inform you of our curriculum coverage for this half term. We will also outline some key dates for this year. Year 6 is a very important year for your child and our school and we hope that you will support your child in ensuring they are in school each day and on time. We are always happy to support you and your children over the year and will be on the playground before school and after school if you have any messages or questions.

Welcome Back Meeting

On Monday 10th September 3:20pm, we would like to invite you into our class so that we can introduce ourselves-if we haven't already; also, we would like to share some of the main expectations and key information for this year. It will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you have. Please join us in 6PD. If you cannot make this meeting, we will send home the PowerPoint via email or as a letter. If you would like to pop and see us at any other time over the next two weeks we will plan this in with you.

Library and PE days.

Our library day is on a Tuesday and our PE day is on a Tuesday and Thursday. Full PE kits should be in school on these days; to develop children's independence and to prepare them for secondary school, if they do not have their correct PE kit, they will receive a detention after school. We have advised the children to leave their kit in school all week. Library books can either stay in school or they can go home but they should be in school each day for reading for pleasure time.

Reading at home

Each year group will continue to follow our reading challenge expectations; children will earn ticks over the year and catch up reading will take place of Fridays if children have not read at least 5 times in the previous week. As your children are older they can read to themselves but an adult must sign. We check daily so will not accept signatures late or all at the end of the week. We want to encourage a positive reading attitude so we will discuss the books children are reading with them. **Reading at home starts on Friday 7th September and the first time we check the diaries will be on Monday 10th September.**

Homework

We will send home learning home on a Friday and we will always send a text the day before to let you know what it is going to be and when it should be handed in. If children do not complete home learning they will have a catch up session during a play time with an adult from our year group. It will always relate to learning in class. We will always go over home learning with the children and it may be that they peer or self-mark.

SATS- 13th May 2019-16th May 2019

In year 6 children will be assessed against everything they have learnt in key stage 2 and this will be in the form of externally marked tests. Writing is assessed by class teachers and will be assessed from the work in their books. We like to keep the year as normal as possible for the children but built in alongside units of learning children will sometimes have a go at 'test type questions' this is to prepare them for the questions they are asked; however, we also plan these style of questions into our learning. Last year we saw a huge increase in the percentage of children reaching expected in reading, writing and maths and we aim for even better results this year. In the afternoons we will continue with our enquiry learning, PE, art and other

subjects to engage the children. We will hold a meeting in October to explain in more detail about the SATS but if you have any questions at any point then please ask. Holidays should not be booked during sats week as it is a statutory testing week for all Year 6 pupils.

Kingswood-29th October-2nd November 2018

You would by now have paid most of the required money for Kingswood. We are really looking forward to this trip if you require extra copies of the kits list then please let us know. We usually meet at the ferry on this day and children return to the ferry on the Friday. Timings will be confirmed over the next couple of weeks. Children not attending Kingswood will be expected to be in school.

North American Day – last week of term

At the end of the half term (day to be confirmed) we will have a North American Dress up day. On this day we will focus on history and we will learn more about the North American way of life. Children may dress up as an American historical figure or they could dress up as a Native American. Some children may wish to dress up as a North American landmark.

End of year

Even though it is a way off, we will be having discussions early with the children regarding what they would like to do for their end of year treat. This is a trip we usually run with Year 6 as a 'well done' for their hard work through their time at St John's. We are likely to have events like a disco and a bbq and of course we have the leavers' assembly at the end of the year too. We will start a Year 6 production straight after sats which parents will be invited to attend.

Although Year 6 can be a challenging year, we try to make it as fun and rewarding as possible.

Booster groups

Over the next couple of weeks we will set up booster groups which will mostly run before school. Many teachers will run these groups and they are to support children in their learning. We ask that you encourage children to attend these sessions as it provides them with extra opportunities to be supported with specific areas of learning.

Uniform

We are delighted to see so many children looking smart and wearing the correct uniform. Please be reminded that shoes should be plain black and without colour- including white.

Communication

Every morning the class teacher will be on the playground, so if you need to pass on any information please do so at this time. We will also be out at the end of the day. We understand that some parents work and are not around at the start or end of the day so please feel free to write a message in the reading diary as this will be checked each day. Also, you could send a note in. If you need us to give you a call in the evening or early morning- we are happy to do this.

We are really looking forward to spending this year with your children. We promise that we will support your children and you in any way we can and we really hope to make your children's last year of school a memorable one.

Trips

After Kingswood, there is one other main educational trip that we hope to book this year which will support one of our exciting history topics. We hope to get this booked next week so watch this space.....

Thank you for your support

Miss Havey and Mr Dickin

