



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Jo MacGovern

Tuesday 22nd January 2019

Dear Parents / Carers of Year 6 pupils,

Following a busy start to the spring term for both Year 6 pupils and teachers we recognise that Year 6 is an exciting but challenging year with pupils looking forward to moving into secondary education in September. As children grow and progress through the school, expectations inevitably increase and at Heene this culminates in Year 6 when we strive to support our pupils with various important milestones. In March most will hear which secondary school they will be moving to; in May there are National tests (SATs) and the opportunity to take part in the residential trip to Grosvenor Hall; in July many of the pupils will spend a day at their new school and as the summer term ends there are a variety of activities to recognise and celebrate individual achievements at Heene before pupils move on.

With transition to secondary education in mind we work hard to build greater independence and confidence to face the challenges ahead. Moving into secondary education is exciting but it can also be daunting and it is natural to have some apprehension which we are fully sympathetic to.

All Year 6 pupils should have now brought home their relevant revision guides alongside the first half terms revision schedule. This clearly sets out a manageable set of tasks. We thought it would be helpful to share with you the range of activities that are underway within Year 6, some ongoing and part of the daily life of our school and others additional and specific to Year 6:

- Ongoing
 - Regular book looks and drop-ins to classrooms to monitor English and Maths by senior leaders – this is part of our whole school monitoring programme;
 - Regular discussions with Year 6 teachers and teaching assistants about pupil progress;
 - Pupil interviews;
- Classteachers
 - Maths revision sessions – Before school – Mon, Wed, Thurs by invitation;
 - Reading session – After school on Tuesday – by invitation;
- Mrs MacGovern
 - More able maths group – twice a week during maths lessons with homework set weekly;
- Mrs Taylor (Rev Paul Taylor's wife has in the last week volunteered some of her time)
 - GPS groups – Mornings twice a week – teacher selected groups;
 - Maths fluency group – Afternoon once a week – teacher selected groups.



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To aid the revision sessions and different groups please jot down and send in with your child's revision book any questions or areas of GPS/Maths they need further clarification on and these can be prioritised over the term with the children. The children will need to bring this to the attention of their classteacher.

Throughout the school there is an expectation of good behaviour and hard work to enable the children to achieve their full potential but we also recognise the importance of maintaining a happy and caring environment in which the children can thrive. We are keen to do all we can to maintain our good reputation, this was recognised in the latest Ofsted report which states 'Pupils behave well and have positive attitudes to learning. They enjoy coming to school because they feel secure and happy.'

Unfortunately, we are aware that some Year 6 pupils have started to feel unsettled and we are keen to resolve any issues that may arise. Since Christmas we have spoken with a few children individually or in small groups in order to listen to their views. We are using the feedback we receive to plan ongoing activities and address any concerns.

As previously advised, the next Parent Consultation meetings are on 4th & 7th March but in the meantime if you have any queries and wish to speak to a member of staff please contact the office to make an appointment.

The children really launched themselves into their new novel 'Wolf Brother' during the first week and are looking forward to their 'Greek Day' on 30th January. The Year 6 teachers have asked me to pass on that there may be times this term when some activities are pulled together as mini-projects, e.g. they may have an Art / DT day rather than one lesson a week. It enables the broad and balanced curriculum to continue alongside the English and Maths but in a more purposeful way.

Thank you for your continued support, it is appreciated by all concerned.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jo MacGovern
Headteacher