

## Year 6 Newsletter Spring 2017



Dear Parents

Firstly, may we wish you a very Happy New Year, and thank you for your kind Christmas presents at the end of last term! This term we have a number of exciting things happening and we thought you might find it useful to have some information regarding staffing, curriculum, routine and homework.

### Teaching Staff

In addition to the regular teaching staff, Mr Coulson will be teaching alongside Mrs Gallagher in maths for several sessions a week.

We continue to be grateful for the following parental help

Mrs Docherty - Maths on Tuesday mornings

Mrs Brighton - Maths on Tuesday mornings & working with children on Thursday afternoons

We are always keen to have more parents to support us. If you could help, either by hearing readers, sticking in work or working alongside children in class we would be very grateful. Please get in touch, if you could spare **even just one hour every so often**.

### Curriculum this half term

**English** - Reading & Writing. Focused reading skills, Comprehension.

Our texts will focus on **Non- Fiction Recounts** (UFOs and Aliens :Investigating Extra-terrestrial Visitors - Extremel by Paul Mason and UFO Diary by Satoshi Kitamura).

**Fiction** (Short by Kevin Crossley), **Mystery and Crime Writing**, **Poetry** (The Power of Imagery) and **Journalistic Writing** (Please note, depending on sets, children will work on different genres)

**Maths** - Number, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics, Mental Strategies and Problem Solving

**Science** - Habitats, Food chains and Adaptation

**History** - The Ancient Egyptians. The children will gain a thorough knowledge of Pharaohs, pyramids, mythology, daily life and The Nile. If you have any resources that you think could enhance our topic, please encourage your child to bring them into school.

**Art** - Linked to David Hockney's landscapes

**Design and Technology** - Moving Toys

**RE** - The Christian Creed

**ICT** - Switched on ICT - Geotrails

**French** - Healthy Eating and Creating a Cafe

**Music** - Linked to The Ancient Egyptians

**Games & PE** - with Progressive Sports coaches

### Theme Weeks

**9<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> January** - We have started our Design & Technology topic this week, designing, constructing and evaluating a Moving Toy. This will involve investigating the way cams can influence the way a model can move. Each class has stayed with their own teacher during the week.

We are currently planning an Egyptian Worlds workshop at Manchester Museum. This should take place during the middle of February; pupils will develop and apply their historical enquiry skills and their knowledge about ancient Egypt, focusing on one of the Museum's mummies. Further details will be sent home soon.

**2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> March** - Our **World Book Day** activities will be based around The Horrible Egyptians books. These sessions will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The children will learn more about Egyptian food, language and art. Please could you provide your child with an empty, clean soup pot, similar to the one in the illustration, in order to make a canopic jar. On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>, we hope that you will encourage your child to dress in an Egyptian themed costume. A simple style outfit would be ideal, or something more elaborate would be brilliant! We are asking for £2 contribution towards resources - please complete the attached form.



### **DOJO**

Last term, each child took home an invitation for parents to join the DOJO network. Currently we have about half of the Year 6 parents connected. If you haven't yet joined, or have misplaced your letter, please let us know. We can re-issue login details for you to sign up, see photos and get information about what is happening in class.

### **SATS Meeting**

A SATs meeting will be held this term on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. This will be an opportunity for teachers to explain more about the SATs tests, revision programme and ideas about how to help your child. Children are welcome to accompany parents.

### **Planners**

Children have 'Homework Planners' to record their homework and teachers will help your child to write details and dates. Please remind your child to record daily reading completed at home, and bring his/her planner to school every day. We would ask you to check planners regularly throughout the week and sign them each weekend.

### **PE & Games**

The day for outdoor games is Friday. Please ensure your child has the correct kit, including jogging bottoms, T-shirt, long sleeved sweatshirt type top, trainers and spare socks. A carrier bag is useful to bring this often wet and dirty kit home. PE kit is needed on the same days as last term. Please could all children have a separate PE kit (not games kit) which is kept in school. In addition, we will be asking children to ensure that long hair is tied back and jewellery is removed for PE/games lessons.

### **Library**

Year 6 children have a library session on alternate Wednesdays where they have an opportunity to borrow books to read in class and take home. Please help your child to return their books to school on their given date.

### **Jewellery & Nail Varnish**

We have noticed many children (boys and girls) are wearing coloured bands, bracelets, necklaces and chains. Please note that these do not conform to our uniform policy, and as

a result, we are asking that you do not allow your child to wear these items to school. Please ensure your child does not wear nail varnish to school.

**Mobile 'Phones**

Many children are bringing mobile 'phones into school, and although this is against our school policy, we appreciate that parents wish children to carry one, especially if walking unsupervised to and from school. If your child brings a 'phone to school, we cannot be held responsible should it be lost, stolen or damaged and we insist that it is kept switched off throughout the day.

**Finally....**

This term is always a busy one and we have lots to fit in. We do appreciate your continued help and support.

Many thanks,

Jackie Gallagher, Joanne Jones, Lucy King, Katie Kendry, Julie Duffy, Carol Breen, Joan Lister, Kate McLean and Ian Coulson

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**World Book Day**

I give my consent for .....to participate in the Egyptian World Book days and have attached £2 towards the cost of resources.

He/she does/does not have any food allergies. (If so please give details below)

Signed .....Parent/Guardian

