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|  Westbury Park School  Year 6 newsletter Term 1, 2019 |

Welcome to Year 6! We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready for a fun-packed year. Year 6 is- we think- the most exciting year of primary school and is full of trips, responsibility and exciting topics. As with moving into any new year group, the beginning can always feel a bit daunting and the work will feel more challenging, but we know everyone will find their stride. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to pop into the Year 6 block and speak to one of us or drop us an email.

The Year 6 team this year will be Miss Mann, Miss Colwill, Mrs Burdett in the mornings and Mrs Jefferis in the afternoons.

**Topic**

This term we will be focusing on History and learning about the Mayans. We have a workshop on Tuesday 10th September to introduce the children to the topic as well as many exciting craft activities to help understand the timeline of the ancient civilisation. Please see separate email for more information.

**Reading**

Please continue to read with your child at home whenever possible. It is really important that the children read a variety of genres- including non fiction- as this will help them greatly with their comprehension skills.

We are attaching a list of books that the children might like to try <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-6-pupils-ks2-age-10-11/>

**WRITING:**

We will begin the term with suspense stories and using detail to create impact and atmosphere. After, we will be using beauty and the beast film to retell a narrative and write newspaper reports. Finally we will finish with developing our persuasive techniques in a letter based on a book about the Nashua River. We aim to inspire the children to be creative writers alongside supporting them to polish their grammatical toolkit.

**Mathematics:**

The overall aims in this subject are:

* To make maths relevant to the child.
* To encourage confident use of the 4 functions, mentally and on paper.
* To show that maths is a universal language, which can describe their world.
* To promote enjoyment of the subject.

We will begin by looking at the formal written methods so that the children can consolidate their understanding of place value and rehearsing the number functions. This will run alongside more open ended enquiry work and a focus on real life problem solving. We ask that times tables from 1-12 are practised regularly and there will be a weekly arithmetic test starting next term.

**Science:**

We are going to begin our science learning with a topic on Light this year. We hope to give children the opportunity to engage in a wide range of practical investigations and experiments as the year continues.

**PE:**

PE will be on a Thursday afternoon. This term we are lucky to be able to continue to go off site to Kellaway playing fields. **Due to the timings, we are requesting that all children come wearing their PE kits.**

**ART/DT:**We will be using our topic of the Mayans to inspire our art this term and will look at Mayan masks and worry dolls.

**FRENCH**

French will be taught by Mrs Hann on a Wednesday afternoon. She will begin the year by revisiting the Year 5 objectives.

**JIGSAW**

Even though we have a specific PSHE curriculum, we aim to embed the core values of this throughout our teaching. Children are given opportunities to discuss issues that may be worrying them. The first unit in Jigsaw will be Being Me in My World.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework will be given out every Friday and handed in the following Wednesday. This way it gives us time to mark and review this in class and go over any concepts. Children will be allocated pages from the SPAG and Maths books as well as a short comprehension sheet and all tasks will aim to reinforce classroom learning.

**FRANCE**

Over the course of the next week, a letter about payment for the France trip will be coming home. In the meantime, if you are still deciding whether or not your child is coming on the trip, do come in and talk to us and we will aim to answer any questions you have.

**TRANSITION**

Apart from curriculum activities and established links that already form part of a transition programme, the whole of Year 6 is geared towards preparing the children for the move to secondary school. We will encourage children to use a diary to record their homework tasks.

We will be using Google Classroom which children can access using their school email account. We will put the homework and any other reminders on there, in case diaries are left at school.

We also have Class Dojo story to give you key information and messages as well as a commentary of life in Y6.

The children are expected to take on some roles and responsibilities in the smooth running of the school including managing the recycling or showing visitors around the school. In return, they are given the privilege of sitting on benches in assembly and using the Year 6 block before school. Please ensure that children do not arrive at school any earlier than 8:40am.

As a general rule we ask that you allow your child

to work for approximately 30 minutes per evening and also a short tables and spelling practice at a convenient time. We try to set work that the children can tackle more or less independently but your support and encouragement will be an invaluable boost to your child’s confidence and can also help you to stay in touch with their progress.

Finally, we would like to welcome you to Year 6 and hope that your child has a really happy and memorable year with us. Please feel free to come and see us if you have any queries.

**Key dates**:

**Tuesday 10th September-**  Mayan Workshop

**Tuesday 17th September-** fSecondary transition talk from Bristol City Council for parents

**Monday 9th September**- Year 6 parent meeting