



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 6! We hope that you all had a wonderful summer and are ready for the year ahead. Our Year Six team is Mrs Whitton assisted by Sophie and Natalie, with Mrs Verhoeven covering on a Tuesday. We are all looking forward to teaching your children again and guiding and supporting them in their final year of primary school. We hope that you and your children enjoy the learning and the challenges that Year 6 has to offer. Your children are already working hard and have shown a great interest and enthusiasm towards their learning.

This handout will provide an overview of what we will be covering this term, as well as expectations with regards to homework. We hope that you find it useful but please feel free to catch one of us in the playground or contact the office to arrange an appointment if you have any concerns or questions. You can also find curriculum map for the whole year and how each aspect links within and across the year on the school website.

Reading

Each week your child will be read with in guided reading sessions. During these lessons children will read aloud, answer questions relating to the text and discuss the text as a group. There will be follow up activities which your child will complete in their read and respond journals. We will be studying two non-fiction texts in the Autumn term. Through these texts the children will develop key reading comprehension skills. *Black and British* by David Olusoga gives a short, essential history ranging from the first Africans to come to Britain through to the Windrush scandal. *Incredible Journeys* by Levison Wood will take the children on a journey around the world, discovering the most daring pioneers. Both texts link to other curriculum areas that we will be studying.

Your child has been given a reading record and we will ensure that they are reading a book which is appropriate for their reading level. Whilst we will ensure some time is provided for independent reading in school, it is vital that children read for at least 15 minutes at home every day. Children are expected to answer a reading comprehension question each night and write a response in their reading record. Reading records should be brought to school every day and will be checked regularly.

Your child will also have a weekly visit to the school library, this will take place on Friday afternoon. Please ensure any library books are returned on this day.

Writing

We will continue a book based approach to the teaching of our literacy. Across the school, we have found that using a text as a stimulus for writing brings much enthusiasm and gives children a purpose to what they write. They will have a range of writing tasks both fiction and non-fiction, including writing letters, diary entries, stories, newspaper articles and non-chronological reports. In all lessons children will be learning or consolidating skills in spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting. Our first text is *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan. This is a beautifully illustrated story of being a stranger in a strange place. Through this wonderful book, the children explore immigration and gain a deeper understanding of the experiences and challenges faced.

Maths

The expectations for Year 6 in relation to maths can be found in the maths handbook, which is on the school website, along with the sequence of study. We will have maths lessons every day following the Maths No Problem syllabus. We will start the term studying numbers to 10 million and then move on to the four operations on whole numbers, ensuring that all children have secured a good understanding of place value. If you're unsure how methods are being taught or of how they should be laid out, please check the Maths Methods Handbook, which is available on the school website.

It is expected that your child knows their times tables up to 12 in line with the national expectation for the end of Year 4. Please work with your children to support them with learning these if they are not yet confident as accuracy and speed in recalling multiplication and division facts is fundamental to mathematical reasoning

and problem solving. The best way to practise these is for short periods (5-10 minutes) each day using Time Tables Rock Stars.

Religious Education

In RE lessons we will be trying to answer the question, how does worship and liturgy enable a Christian to grow their faith? These lessons will encourage children to consider the Christian practices of prayer and worship as well as why Christians express themselves in this way. Alongside this, children will be encouraged to develop their own spiritual identity. During the autumn term, we will also consider remembrance and we will end the term considering Christmas both spiritually and secularly.

Science

This term, we will be learning about light. Your child will have opportunities to learn about how we see shadows, reflection and refraction. They will learn how light travels and how it enables us to see. They will have opportunities to work scientifically and carry out investigations through this topic.

PSHE

At Boutcher School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and relationships as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity. We use the Jigsaw Programme which offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area. The Curriculum map can be found on the school website. The first topic being covered across the school is: Being Me in My World. In this unit, children think about understanding their identity and how they fit well in the class, school and global community.

Computing

We will start the year by covering esafety where children will develop their understanding of how to stay safe online. We will continue to study computer programming through code.org. We will follow course F which begins by looking at how users make choices in the apps they use, moving on to use more advanced concepts, including variables and loops.

Topical Talk

We will continue to have weekly Topical Talk lessons. Through these lessons children will have opportunities to develop their critical thinking and communication skills and apply these to complex real-world issues. Please encourage your children to login and join the discussion!

PE

We will continue to run the Boutcher Mile on Tuesdays. We will also have PE on a Friday afternoon. Children should wear their PE kits to school on both days and they will stay in them all day. This term we will be developing our PE skills through tag rugby.

Theme

This term our topic will be Islamic Civilisation. We will be learning about this the development of the great Islamic city of Baghdad including trading practices and everyday life, comparing it with contemporary cities in Western Europe. Children will learn about the spread of Islam through the Middle East and beyond.

Music

Children will continue to have drumming lessons each week on a Wednesday afternoon.

Services

This year, our theme is signs, symbols and wonders. In the Autumn term we will be looking at some of these found in the old testament. We will develop our understanding of some of the most loved and well known stories, looking at them through a new lens, whilst drawing practical lessons that we can apply in our own lives. We would love for you to join us on Friday mornings at 10am in the school hall. The dates when we will be leading service are:

Friday 30th September 2022 – The Wonder of Creation

Friday 21st October 2022 – The Symbolism of Fire

Friday 18th November 2022 – The Wonder of Faith

Homework

Homework will look a little different in Year 6, with daily and weekly homework being set.

Daily

As previously mentioned, your child is expected to read for a minimum of 15 minutes every night and to complete a reading comprehension question response in their reading record. This year, they will also be provided with a maths workbook and children are expected to complete the assigned work daily. This should take them approximately 10 minutes. In addition to this, children are expected to practise their times tables on TTRS for between 5-10 minutes each day. The daily maths workbook and their reading records are expected in school each day where we will mark the tasks. Further teaching will be provided if required. Please do support your child in bringing these books to school **every day**. Continued failure to bring completed work to school will result in working during lunchtimes.

Weekly

Weekly homework will be set on Wednesday and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.

We will continue to set spelling homework on Google Classroom. This should be completed in the homework book that your child has received and uploaded to Google Classroom by Wednesday morning. Feedback on homework will be given in class or on an individual basis depending on need.

Each week children will be set one reading comprehension task from a reading comprehension book and one SPaG task from a SPaG workbook. This should be brought to school by Wednesday morning as we will mark this work together and feedback will be given. Please ensure children only complete the pages they are assigned.

If homework is not handed in, children will have to complete it during lunch time.

Whilst your children are growing in independence, please do support them in ensuring they have their belongings needed for each school day. It is also vital that they attend school on time as lateness is disruptive for everyone and opportunities to learn are missed. It is particularly important in Year 6 that children are supported with these things as it will help prepare them for secondary school.

Many thanks for your continued support and we look forward to a successful year.

The Year Six Team