



COBHAM
Primary School



Year 6 Newsletter

Dear Parents & Children of Class 6,

A warm welcome back to school after what I hope has been a fantastic break for you all. I hope you have all had a great rest and are ready for the exhilarating challenges of Year 6. Mrs Kelly and I are extremely excited to have you again this year and we cannot wait to get stuck into the amazing Year 6 curriculum with all of the wonderful topics we have to explore. The children have already articulated during our transition morning specific areas they would like to improve on this year, and it is my aim to ensure that they each achieve this and continue to excel beyond their own expectations! In addition to this, I am here to help, push, and support the children as they grow emotionally ready for the expectations of Secondary School; through clear, fair and essential expectations from day one in Class 6. This will be a team effort between home and the Year 6 team including Mrs Kelly, Mrs Lyons and I.

English

It is no secret that English is one of my greatest passions and I absolutely loved seeing the children blossom in this area last year! I am absolutely delighted to share my fascination in this subject with My Year 6 class to continue to expand their vocabulary and help their imaginations run wild. As well as this, my transparent high expectations from each child to always give me 100%! The texts I have chosen to study and explore a range of genres through in Term 1 and 2 include, *The Lost Thing*, *Goodnight Mr Tom* and *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* along with using Podcasts to inspire mature writing too. It is not a case of running out and buying the books and reading them through before we do so as a class. This is not the way we will be exploring the literature. We will be taking sections of the text and deducting inference, inspiration and curiosity from them, to support the children's own literature and vision at a steady pace. The children will be using more complex sentence structures, increasingly advanced vocabulary and punctuation. It is still vitally important that children keep up the reading and learning of their spellings, to complement their writing.

Reading still remains a vital priority in Year 6. The children **must** read daily. This will be tracked against our Class 6 Reading challenge every day. In addition to reading at home every day, I will hear every child read at least once a week. Please ensure you do the same as the children love reading to someone else and then please sign to indicate this has taken place.

Within the English Curriculum the Government have put a high emphasis on spellings. Spellings as normal will be learnt weekly. The children are given them on a Monday and they have a series of activities that assist their understanding and use of the new words. The tasks must all be completed by Friday and handed in weekly. The spelling test is first thing on a Friday morning! It is down to each individual to make sure their homework is given in on time and to a **high** standard.

Mathematics

Mathematics is a fascinating and astounding subject to teach children. The awe and amazement the children experience each time they grasp a new and challenging concept is humbling and one I truly love seeing. We have lots of new concepts to learn and lots of new challenges to explore within the new curriculum for maths this year. The children will consolidate a lot of their wonderful mathematical skills including: place value up to and including millions, probability, mean, mode and median, proper and improper fractions as well as percentages, decimals and fractions. They will be exploring how to apply this basic understanding to a range of different problem-solving situations. We will develop our understanding to work with larger numbers in different concepts, moving onto solving complex two and three step word problems. Times tables still remain an essential element in the children's mental maths skills, thus it is imperative that the children continue to learn and practice these at home!

Science

Science is a magical subject and the fascination and awe the children display is truly magical. Our topics are Animals Including Humans and Light where lots of investigative work is involved. We will look closely at how light is made, used and created as well as looking at the human eye and how it interprets light. The children will be exploring a range of practical activities to develop the children's understanding further.

History

History in term one is based on World War 2. We thought it would be an amazing topic to start of the year with excitement and engagement in the curriculum and I know the children are looking forward to learning the knowledge and skills in this area.

Geography

Geography in Term 2 looks at the 'Water Cycle' and the effects on land. The children will learn where water comes from and how it travels, used and causes damage and income. This will be explored through detailed understanding of Rivers and Coasts from across Great Britain.

Art

In *Art* we will be developing our basic skills using a range of different mediums for the topic shading and perspective. Children will work on their shading, collage construction, colour and scales to manipulate visual perspectives. This should produce many magical results for displays, as well as magical pieces of art work in their personal sketch books.

Design and Technology (DT)

Our *DT* project is designing, making and evaluating cushions ready for Christmas. The children will invent their own design and bring it to life to life. A project that every Year 6 class loves and we are bringing it into Christmas Season to make it purposeful and amazing.

Religious Education (RE)

RE is the study of exploring a range of topical issues and religions, comparing the different opinions and seeing how they impact our lives today.

French

In *French* we will carry on with our fun, interactive Tout le Monde programme!

Computing

Computing will be taught weekly by Mr Burns, our Computing expert, and the children will learn a range of skills including coding and how to stay safe online.

Physical Education

PE on Wednesday will be taught by an amazing coach over the coming six terms. As well as Friday swimming lessons. Please ensure children have a suitable kit for when it is cold or raining for any outdoor P.E sessions organised for the children! Waterproofs and a change of socks are a must!

PSHE

PSHE will be looking at our achievements and expectations for the future whilst exploring the topic of New Beginnings and Human Rights!

Spelling Contract

As mentioned above, children are given their Spelling Contract with their spellings on a Monday. They have a series of tasks, which are outlined below, to support the learning of their spellings and are required to be completed before a Friday morning. These activities do help and support the children's learning of spellings and therefore **must** be completed. The children are given from 8:45am until 9:05am to complete these activities within class; however, if they are not completed within class, they do need to be completed at home.

<u>Year 6 Spelling Contract</u>	
Monday	Write out your spellings three times Now add a different (or new) suffix or a prefix to 3 of the root words in your spellings Pick two of your words and try and put them into your English writing during the next week
Tuesday	Find 10 dictionary definitions using a dictionary carefully (work with your partner, share your definitions)
Wednesday	Look, say, cover, write and check
Thursday	Put 10 of the words into detailed sentences that actually make sense! Get your mums or dads to read the sentences and initial them to show they make sense!
Friday	Test your friend with the spellings when you first arrive at school in the morning!

Homework

Homework in Year 6 is outlined below. Four main homework tasks are given each week and are expected back in on the set days outlined in the table below. For all of the other activities, the children are given from 8.45am until 9.05am every morning to give them time to complete their spelling contract and to reduce the amount of work to be completed at home.

The children are expected to ensure 100% effort, focus and dedication is given to their homework for every single piece. The children know that as long as they tackle the homework with 100% effort and 'have a go' then I am happy with their achievements. Repeatedly not completing homework or forgetting to hand it in will result in detention at lunchtimes where it will be completed. Conversely children will be rewarded for their efforts with house points and prizes! As part of their learning in organisation and self reliance, encourage the children to inform me themselves of any problems with homework and I will happily spend time with them again. Having Homework on different days and giving the children opportunity to spread out their homework to reach deadlines is a vital skill they must master before Secondary School. Term 1 I am expecting the fear and overwhelmed feelings to occur; however, by Christmas I know they will have their timetable down to a fine art! Although please be warned that I will change the timetable for Term 3 and 4.

A copy of the homework timetable will be in the meet and greet packs.

Year 6 is a truly wonderful year for the children as our transition process starts on day one in September. We focus a lot on independence in Year 6 and your support with this skill is crucial. Please ensure the children are taking responsibility for their homework, belongings and for making sure everything they need for their learning is in school on the days required.

If there are any worries or problems please do not hesitate to contact me. I am certain that we will have an incredible year and we look forward to working with your children during this cherished final year!

Safeguarding information for Year 5 & 6

OWN IT:bbc.co.uk/ownit

You may have seen the recent campaign on TV for the BBC "Own It" website for children aged 9 years - 12 years. This will be predominantly aimed for our children in Year 5 and in Year 6. I wanted to bring your attention to this website again as an excellent source of information and support for your child's life online. The website quotes the following objectives:

"Own It brings a child's perspective of online life and the issues it throws up. It covers everything from online privacy and avoiding malware, through to dealing with everyday dilemmas children face online, as well as having fun. Quick links to charities and organisations like Childline, whose phone lines and online chat can provide urgent support should children need it, will also be available."

Kind Regards,

Mrs Rose and the Year 6 team