

# Welcome to Class 6



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 6! A warm welcome back from our summer holidays to you and your child. Year 6 is a very busy and exciting year as we give the children increased responsibility and, dare I say it, prepare the children for their move to secondary school next September.

The timetable for this half of term is in the homework diary. Please remember that children should have clear pencil cases containing writing equipment, including whiteboard pens (which can be bought from school for 50p) and glue sticks. Any donations of glue sticks or whiteboard pens for general class use would be very welcome. PE kits should be in school at all times and kept in the lockers.

## **Literacy**

We will be focusing on a variety of texts this term and will be looking at fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Our aim is for the children to be able to identify and write in a range of genres. All children will be expected to identify parts of a sentence e.g. adverbial clauses etc. and will be encouraged to use this knowledge to improve their writing skills. They will work on using a range of vocabulary to fit the purpose of the writing.

The majority of our lessons will focus on sentence level improvements, with children planning, drafting, writing and editing to evaluate the effectiveness of their writing. In addition, we will have grammar, spelling, vocabulary development and reading and comprehension sessions. We will have a particular grammatical feature/punctuation focus week and some homework tasks will reinforce these too.

Literacy targets for the term will be set based on an initial assessment of your children's next steps in writing and will be put into homework diaries. Please talk to your child about their targets and encourage them to work hard towards them. We strongly believe in encouraging children to take ownership of their learning, which includes developing both a love of learning for its own sake and a responsible, hard-working attitude. Well

done to those children who found time to read regularly and practise their times tables over the summer.

## Maths

This term, we will be looking at place value and using all four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This will include mental methods and written methods. Also, we will be working on fractions and geometry, position and direction.. **We will be doing weekly tables tests so please ensure all tables are practised regularly.**

## The rest of the curriculum at a glance

<b>Science</b>	Light (1st half term); Electricity (2nd half term)
<b>Computing</b>	E-safety and we are adventure gamers using the Python coding language
<b>History</b>	Local History
<b>Geography</b>	Maps – linked to the local History
<b>RE</b>	Science vs Creation
<b>Art</b>	Self portraits Observational painting of the church
<b>PE</b>	Rounders and football/sports leadership; netball and hockey
<b>PSHE</b>	Me in my world / Celebrating Differences
<b>French</b>	Actions; Family
<b>Music</b>	Happy! Classroom Jazz Ocarinas for Christmas carols

## Home learning

New home learning will **be given out on a Thursday and is due in the following Wednesday**. It is important that home learning is given in on time to ensure a smooth transition between the pieces.

Literacy home learning will be a mix of grammar/spelling questions and Literacy tasks, some of which will require children to work independently and creatively. Maths home learning will be a mixture online activities, arithmetic or problem solving activities. Some home learning will be set online and some will be done the homework books. This will be explained and modelled to the children each Thursday when the homework will be given out. If children have a problem understanding the homework, then they are expected to ask for help before the due date.

**Reading will be checked in the reading diary each day and the expectation is to read at least 3 times a week. Children will be rewarded “Dojo House points” for reading but if there is not signed evidence of reading the agreed 3 times a week, then children will “catch up” with their reading during Friday break time as we believe that reading regularly is the key to academic progress and achievement.**

<b>Home learning expectations per week as per school approved policy</b>	
Literacy	40 mins
Maths	40 mins
Spellings	40 mins (3 short sessions per week)– Learning the spellings and writing within a sentence
Times Tables to 12, Multiples, Factors, Inverses (division facts)	As much as possible! The faster and easier they can recall these facts the better!
Reading	Minimum 3 times a week; parent/carers to sign homework diary/reading list

<b>Home learning timetable and weekly tests</b>		
Reading Eggs and Mathletics will all be fixed to your child’s level and are excellent revision sites for them to go on regularly via the Pupil Portal (like we used during Home Learning) I also recommend IXL grammar and maths		
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Set</b>	<b>Due in</b>
Literacy	Thursday	Wednesday
Maths	Thursday	Wednesday
Reading	Daily	
Spelling	Thursday	Wednesday

### **Ways to support your child at home**

- Understand that some home learning assignments may involve your child teaching you a concept they have learned in class. **Learn together how to get the result required.** In terms of maths, our updated calculation policy is available on our website, so please refer to it if in doubt of any methods we are teaching in order to minimise confusion by teaching another method. If your child is confused by the homework, please encourage them to come to me before the due date and I will help them.

- **Emphasise the importance of home learning and hard work as a route to success** rather than relying on any innate talent or simply giving up or not giving their best. Ideally, help your child to establish a regular time and place (away from the TV and technology) to complete their home learning.
- Please don't think that they don't need your input any more with their reading. Reading is key to the development of your child's learning process as it underpins the whole curriculum. Do make sure that they are reading suitable texts regularly, interspersing fiction with nonfiction and different genres, including newspapers. **At this age, it is still good for them to read aloud to you, and sometimes hear you read to them so that they can copy your intonation.** Do question them on their thoughts about the setting, characters, plot, author's choices, inference etc. as they will be tested on this in their KS2 SATs.
- Vocabulary development happens quickest during the moment: ask your child to write down the meaning of new words in a notebook as they come across them.
- **Think carefully about how much screen time your child is getting; late nights and gaming often negatively affect focus in class** and issues that have happened online follow them into their lives at school. This can impact their mental health as well as learning. Whilst I am always happy to discuss these, it would be greatly appreciated if their use of mobile and technology was **closely monitored** at home by you. A set of clear rules agreed by both you and your child is a great start. We have updated our Acceptable Use policy in school to link better with our new values and with home and this will be signed by your child.  
NSPCC has a great website with ideas on how to set parental controls and chat to your children about E-safety:  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>  
Any queries or questions about ways to do this, please feel free to contact me.

### **Your child's responsibilities:**

Year 6 children are expected to take increasing responsibility for their own work and organisation. This includes accurately writing down home learning in their homework planner; handing in home learning on time; having the appropriate resources such as classroom stationery, PE kit (Tuesday) and swimming kit (Wednesday). Please help your child to develop good habits now by helping them set up a good system for this, which works for them.

There will be a **3 strikes** and then a **Yellow Card** rule for **PE kit** and for **homework**, which will start fresh each term.

## **Achievements**

We encourage you to record extra-curricular achievements outside the classroom in their child's homework book. This might include passing a music exam, attaining a well-earned badge in Scouts or Guides or playing particularly well in sport at the weekend. It will enable us to gain a holistic picture of your son/daughter's progress and particular talents. It will also enable us as a school to recognise and celebrate achievement outside of the classroom.

Finally, please contact us if there are any queries regarding the information above. We very much hope to see you all at the virtual 'Meet the Teacher Evening' on the **Tuesday 28th September at 7.00pm**, where I will explain more about the Year 6 curriculum and answer any initial questions.

*Thank you in advance for all your support this year. We are looking forward to a very productive and exciting year in Year 6. We have no doubt it will be a special last year at Curzon.*

*Mr Owen, Mrs Hale, Miss Allan*

## Word list – years 5 and 6

accommodate	embarrass	persuade
accompany	environment	physical
according	equip (–ped, –ment)	prejudice
achieve	especially	privilege
aggressive	exaggerate	profession
amateur	excellent	programme
ancient	existence	pronunciation
apparent	explanation	queue
appreciate	familiar	recognise
attached	foreign	recommend
available	forty	relevant
average	frequently	restaurant
awkward	government	rhyme
bargain	guarantee	rhythm
bruise	harass	sacrifice
category	hindrance	secretary
cemetery	identity	shoulder
committee	immediate(ly)	signature
communicate	individual	sincere(ly)
community	interfere	soldier
competition	interrupt	stomach
conscience*	language	sufficient
conscious*	leisure	suggest
controversy	lightning	symbol
convenience	marvellous	system
correspond	mischievous	temperature
criticise (critic + ise)	muscle	thorough
curiosity	necessary	twelfth
definite	neighbour	variety
desperate	nuisance	vegetable
determined	occupy	vehicle
develop	occur	yacht
dictionary	opportunity	
disastrous	parliament	

