



September 2021

Welcome back Year 6

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are so excited to welcome your child back to Year 6. We hope that you have all had an enjoyable break and are looking forward to returning to the more 'normal' routines of school life. We could not be happier to see all of the children in school again and we've got lots to look forward to!

We have been working hard planning lessons that we think will be engaging and exciting for the children this year. We have ensured that each lesson takes into consideration that the children may have some gaps in their knowledge and understanding and will revise and build upon their Year 5 learning. We will be prioritising the most important objectives that we think will lay the foundations for future learning and will provide lots of opportunities for the children to revisit prior learning and make connections between what they already know and new Year 6 learning objectives.

In Mathematics, our half term will begin by developing our understanding of place value for increasingly larger numbers, including comparing, ordering and rounding numbers. We will revisit our knowledge of the four operations and recap the formal written methods for these. We will also focus on fractions. The children will learn to apply their knowledge to a range of reasoning and problem solving activities.

We are going to be reading a range of texts this half term but our main focus will be on the graphic novel 'Illegal' by Eoin Colfer. The children will learn about refugees and their journey to survival whilst developing their inference and retrieval skills.

In history, the children will begin their study of 'Southampton Through the Years', which will continue into the second half of the Autumn Term. We are pleased to be inviting Andy Skinner from Sea City Museum and Tudor House into school for a special assembly to launch this learning with the children. This will take place on Thursday 16 September. The children will be learning about why people settled in Southampton and the significance of the city over time. This will enable them to apply their prior learning of different historical periods to the context of Southampton. We hope the children find this local study fascinating!

This year, the children will continue to have two sessions of P.E. each week. These will be on **Tuesday and Wednesday mornings**. Please could you ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit in school on both of those days, including a change of footwear. Your child's class teacher(s) will let your child know when they will be having sessions indoors and outdoors so that they can bring the appropriate clothing. We have listened to feedback from children, parents and teachers regarding changing for P.E. and we have decided to get the children changed in separate groups – one classroom for boys and one of girls. We have talked to the children about this so that they know the routines and expectations for changing.

The children were given new planners on Monday. We thank you in advance for your support with your child's daily reading and times table practise. This is more important than ever for your children as they embark on their final year at primary school, as these skills will benefit many areas of learning. Please ensure that home reading is recorded in your child's planner in order for them to gain a sticker towards earning a book from Mr Howard's book vending machine – title of book, page numbers and your signature must be recorded.

We are very pleased to let you know that we've purchased revision guides for reading and maths and these will be used for homework. Each week, the children will be set reading and maths tasks from their books. Homework will be set **every Wednesday** and will be **due in on Tuesdays**. This will help the children revisit prior learning and practise taught skills, whilst also preparing them for their transition onto secondary school at the end of the year. We have chosen these days to give children the longest possible time to complete their homework over the week at a convenient time to them as we acknowledge that children may have different out of school commitments. We are very pleased that we have been able to invest in these revision guides for the children and we expect the children to take great care of them. Children will be responsible for making sure that they bring their homework in on time.

We will end the half term with our residential visit to Little Canada and our Little Fairisle week. We are really looking forward to the week commencing 18 September as we have been busy planning a really fun week for all. We're hoping that this week will be an opportunity for the children to bond and experience new challenges. More information about this will be coming out soon – watch this space!

We would like to say thank you in advance for your support. We are looking forward to a successful half term. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, either through a note in your child's planner or by telephoning the school.

Kind regards,

Anne-Marie Errouam

Holly Cleveley

Catherine Mobey

Charlotte Thornton

Stacey Woods

Corrine Work