

Year 6 Newsletter : Spring 2 2019

Welcome back to Spring 2! Last half-term was yet again another half-term of achievements and hard work. Your children have wowed us with the quality of their writing as we studied the books 'Erika's Story' and 'Rose Blanche' for the whole half term.

With **only 8 weeks to go until the SATs** themselves, it is important that every child in Year 6 comes to school every single day. During lesson time, the children will be revising key learning and practising test techniques to ensure that they achieve their absolute best in the assessments. If even one day is missed it could mean that your child misses a key concept in preparation for their SATs. Please support your child's future by ensuring that they are in school every day as we really want ALL children to reach their full potential!

Thank you also for purchasing the set of SATs revision books. They are great quality resources and will really help your child to review prior learning. We will set homework tasks based on the books but there is also the need for your child to continue to complete independent tasks to support their own learning. Please encourage your child to become more independent and take ownership of their 'out of school' learning. For those children who are already carrying out 'little and often' revision at home, it is paying dividends in their class work and also in their practise SAT scores. The staff in Year 6 will be holding a parents' meeting to discuss the arrangements and expectations for SATs where all parents must attend - further details will be on a separate letter.

Please remember if you need any support or have any questions we are always here to help. We understand that there may be many concerns and queries as the SATs assessments are approaching, so please contact us to discuss any issues.

Mrs Blower, Mrs Shelton and Mrs Critch



Pupil School Reading Books

All children **MUST** bring their home reading books to school every day. Reading books will still be changed as and when the children complete a text, but they must be in school daily.

PE

ALL children will require a full PE Kit in YEAR 6. It is advised they bring it to school on a Monday and return it home for washing on a Friday. Earrings must be removed for each session - plasters must not be used to cover earrings. Long hair should also be tied back. PE will be on Friday afternoons.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 28th February - Parents' Evening
Wednesday 6th March - SATs Parents' Meeting
Friday 8th March - World Book Day
Library Van - Wednesday 27th February &
Wednesday 20th March
Friday 12th April- End of Term

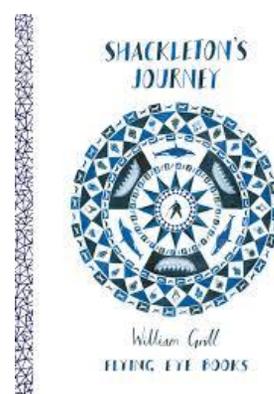
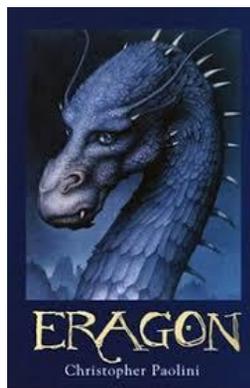
Monday 13th - Friday 17th May - Key Stage 2
SATs week

SPELLINGS & TIMES TABLES PRACTISE

It is important that all Year 6 pupils are practising their spellings and times tables each week. Ideally children should complete both of these practises daily to ensure they are committing them to their long-term memory. Once children are able to instantly recall times table facts, they should begin to recall the corresponding division facts. This will really support them in many areas of Maths.

Literacy

This half term, Year 6 will be focusing on a magical story by Christopher Paolini - 'Eragon' and 'The Giant's Necklace' which is a gripping story that will give children the opportunity to develop their descriptive and figurative language, whilst also securing the key criteria for them to achieve at least the 'expected level' in writing. As part of Writing Booster Sessions, Year 6 will also be focusing on texts about Ernest Shackleton's voyage to the South Pole. In addition, Year 6 will continue to develop their SPaG skills during our Literacy starters.



Numeracy

In Maths, we will be completing the teaching of all areas of the subject before moving onto revision for the forthcoming SAT tests. This will involve a lot of application of the knowledge that children already have, in terms of word problems and the interpretation of graphs and charts. In afternoon and after-school maths booster sessions, we will continue to use test questions to improve our test techniques in all areas of Numeracy.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality is extremely important in Year 6. The Government has set the guideline for pupil attendance to be 96.2% as per the National Standard. It is very important that children are present in school each day to ensure good progress in learning - Every day counts! Please support us by ensuring that your child attends school every day and is in school ready to start their learning by **8.50am**.

Children in Year 6 start each day with **Morning Starters** so it is very important they start school on time.

Homework

- In Year 6, children are expected to develop their independent work skills further. This includes reading (approx. 30 minutes per night). A key element that many Year 6 children need to develop is being able to read fluently at pace. Please encourage this by listening to your child read regularly. Home readers will be sent home from school & your child will have the opportunity to take a free choice book home from our school library.
- Your child also has a Reading Journal - We encourage you to write in this book when you hear your child read. We would really love to create a dialogue between parents and school. **Please ensure that this is filled in once a week.**
- Your child is expected to learn the spellings of words in both the Year 3 / 4 and the Year 5/6 lists by using Look, Cover, Write & Check. They will also be set specific pages from the CGP Spelling Revision book.
- Year 6 will not receive Topic Homework Challenges this half term**, but instead the focus will be on revision of writing, grammar and Maths. Therefore, each week a Literacy / Maths based homework will be sent home.
- Homework is due back in school by Wednesday.** This gives children an opportunity to speak to their teacher on Monday or Tuesday if there is something that they don't understand.
- Year 6 also have a Learning Journal. Please ensure that your child is showing you this journal every week and that **you sign it** so that you are aware of the homework they have received. This is essential in preparing your child for secondary school. Some children still need support in organising themselves and are yet to bring their planners in every week. We appreciate the support you are giving them.