



Federation Headteacher Miss J Concannon
<http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk/>

Thursday 6th September 2018

A warm welcome to the Autumn Term in Year 6

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday and that your child is settling back into the school routine. Miss Fini (6F), Mrs Harmston (6H) and Miss Wilson (6LW) would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Year 6. It is a very exciting year and there's so much for the children to look forward to.

This term we will be learning about London and we have planned many engaging learning opportunities around this theme. So that you are able to support your child in their learning, please see our topic outline accompanying this letter. We will, wherever possible, make cross-curricular links to make the learning more meaningful to the children. All teachers will be available on Thursday 13th September in the hall to answer any questions that you may have about the term ahead. This session will start at 3.30pm and will end at 4:30pm.

Curriculum Books

We would be extremely grateful if you could supply sticky backed plastic to cover all of your child's books and ensure that it is done in order to protect your child's work. Please find your child's Maths, Maths Homework, Science, English, English Homework, Homework Diary, French and Guided Reading books which will need to be covered. Once the children have decorated the front covers of their new Topic Books, we will be sending them home to also be covered with sticky backed plastic.

Whole Class Guided Reading

Following a successful trial in the summer term, across the junior school, we will now be delivering regular whole class Guided Reading sessions. These will enable children of all attainment bands to be immersed in the same high quality literature and discussions. The weekly reading focus will be shared as part of English homework rather than in the children's homework diaries. Every child will read with either the Teacher or Teaching Assistant within a whole class, guided group or individually at least once a week.

Homework Diaries

As secondary school is approaching, we are encouraging the children to be more self-reliant and self-sufficient, taking increasing responsibility for their own learning and progress. The children will be expected to use homework diaries to record their homework, spellings and reading. Parents and staff can also add comments to the reading section and message section for teacher/parent communication. We would like you to check the children's homework diaries on a weekly basis and sign to indicate that you have looked at it. Your child should read for at least 10 minutes every night and record what they have read in their homework diary. Please remind your child that they need their homework diary in school every day.

Information about Homework

Homework will be set for English, Maths and Topic.

English: This will be handed out on a Monday and should be returned by Wednesday. Spelling lists will be given out on a Tuesday. The children should glue these into homework diaries. We expect children to practise their spellings at home regularly. If your child does not understand the meaning of a word, please encourage them to look it up in a dictionary and to practise using the word in a sentence.

Maths: This will be handed out on a Wednesday, and should be returned by Friday. Every other week, Maths homework will be set on Mathletics, an online resource. All children have been given a log in and password. We would greatly appreciate your help in assisting your child learn their times tables - there are many ways to make learning these fun – songs, computer games, and flashcards for example.

Topic: In order to promote more responsibility for their own learning, the children will be given an exciting London project to complete over the course of the term. All details and instructions will be included when they receive their task sheet and the different activities will be explained clearly to them at school. A copy will also be put under the Year 6 page on the School Website.

PE Kits and Stationery

Your children will need P.E kits in schools on the following days:

- **6F:** Every Monday and Friday
- **6H:** Every Tuesday and Wednesday
- **6LW:** Every Tuesday and Friday

It would be extremely beneficial if these could be fully labelled so that any lost property can be quickly returned to its owner. This would also be useful in regards to stationery that the children bring to class in their pencil cases. We will provide your child with a handwriting pen. We kindly ask that children's pencil cases have the following items:

- Glue Stick
- Colouring Pencils
- HB Pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Calculator
- Dictionary
- Thesaurus

Year 6 Roles and Responsibilities

Year 6 is an important year when all the children are given responsibility for a range of extra activities and events. All the Year 6 children have been matched with 'buddies' in Year 3 and are responsible for various jobs and activities around school. In the Summer Term, children were interviewed if they wanted to be a House Prefect. House and Vice prefects will be announced shortly and the children will get to take on many responsibilities and act as exemplary role models for their peers.

Reading

Should you wish to share some London themed books with your child, below is a recommended book list for our topic:



Fiction

- The Other side of truth - Beverley Naidoo
- The Diamond of Drury Lane - Julia Golding
- I, coriander - Sally Gardner
- Mary Poppins - Dr P L Travers
- Oliver Twist - Charles Dickens
- A Christmas Carol - Charles Dickens
- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - Arthur Conan Doyle
- Young Sherlock Holmes: Black Ice - Andrew Lane

Non-fiction

- See Inside London - Rob Lloyd & Barry Ablett
- Children's History of London - Jim Pipe
- London: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know - Klay Lamprell
- The Usborne Book of London
- Pop-Up London - Jennie Maizels
- The Story of London - Richard Brassey
- London Unlocked - Emily Kerr & Joshua Perry
- London: Everything you ever wanted to know - Lonely Planet
- This is London - Miroslav Sasek
- Gruesome Guides: London (Horrible Histories-Terry Deary)

In English, we will be reading The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd and it would be very helpful if you could please buy a copy of the book for your child to use in class.

Key Dates

During the course of the term, there are some important key dates which link to our new topic:

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| • Year 6 The Vyne Trip | Monday 15 th October |
| • Parents' Evening | Tuesday 16 th October (3.30pm - 6pm) |
| • Parents' Evening | Thursday 18 th October (5pm - 8pm) |
| • Political Parties Afternoon | Friday 19 th October |
| • 6F Class Assembly | Friday 2 nd November |
| • Bikeability Course | Monday 5 th November (2 weeks) |

Using feedback from parents, each class will have one class assembly this year. Please note that all class assembly dates for 2018- 2019 can be viewed on the school calendar on the school's website.

If you have any queries throughout the school year, the Year 6 Team will be on the school gates every Monday after school. You can also send messages to us via your child's homework diary or by personal letter. Should you have anything you wish to discuss, which would require a more lengthy discussion, then please don't hesitate to book an appointment through the office to see your child's class teacher. This will ensure that a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

We are all very much looking forward to a full and fruitful term and we thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Fini
(Year Leader)

Mrs Harmston

Miss Wilson

