

Dear parents

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

As we reach the end of this academic year, we are turning our thoughts to next year and welcoming our new year 5 children to the upper key stage two phase, as well as settling our new year 6 children in to their important role of being top of the school, with the responsibility that goes with that role. We thought you might find it useful to see what we hope will be happening next year, as well as giving you an **overview of trips planned** for the rest of the year, **homework, P.E. and other important aspects.**

### **Term 1 topic**

Our topic will be the **Symbolic Stones**, where we use Avebury as our inspiration to study the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Please see the attached topic web for further details.

### **Trips and visits**

We are hoping to run some trips during the next academic year, as follows:

In **term 1** we are planning a **trip for both year groups to Avebury in September** to enhance our topic on the Neolithic Age and the Symbolic Stones. A letter will follow at the beginning of September, but for budgeting purposes, the trip should cost no more than £5.00.

In **term 4** our topic is **Tudor Exploration** and we aim to be running a **trip for both year groups** to Henry VIII's ship the **Mary Rose in Portsmouth in March.**

In **term 5** **Year 6** will hopefully visit **Thorpe Park in May** as a reward for their hard work in the run-up to SATs.

### **Year 6 residential trip**

As you are aware, we would normally run a 5-day residential trip to the Red Ridge Outdoor Activity Centre in Wales in October. However, for many reasons, we have decided that this year it would be better to run a residential trip much later in the academic year. Hence, we are delighted to inform you that we have been able to secure a booking at a fabulous activity centre **over 3 days in early June**, which provides a huge range of indoor and outdoor activities. It is also located much closer to Swindon, so travelling times and costs will be reduced. Year 6 parents will be invited to a **parents meeting about this trip in Term 1, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 5pm.**

### **P.E.**

**Year 6** will have **outdoor P.E.** every **Wednesday** and **Year 5** will have it every **Monday.**

Please **send your child in wearing full PE kit** as we have done this year, as we have found this to work well. Please ensure PE kit adheres to our school policy, as found on our website:

- Velcro or lace-up **trainers.**
- Socks
- **Black shorts**
- **Plain white t-shirt**
- In colder weather, a plain dark sweatshirt or fleece and dark tracksuit trousers with no logos may be worn.
- Football kits are **not** allowed.

**Homework:** Maths homework and weekly spellings will be given out every Friday in years 5 and 6, and the children will be tested the following Friday, so please support your child in making sure they have completed their homework. Spellings should be practised every evening though the Look, Cover, Write, Check sheets we use, ready for testing on the Friday. Times tables should be practised regularly. The children have logins for Times Tables Rockstars, which should also help them.

We also expect your child to read every day for around 10 minutes and for this to be recorded in their reading record. They are usually ready to read by themselves and record their reading at this age – you would only need to sign to say that they have done so. Reading prizes can be claimed after every 25 reads.

Please note: Year 6 homework expectations will change later in the year and more information will follow about this nearer the time.

**Start and Finish times:**

To summarise what was included on the newsletter from Mrs Mayes –

**Year 5**

Start: 8.40am KS2 playground – teachers to meet and lead them in

End: 3.15pm KS2 playground – teachers lead them down (Friday at 1.35pm)

**Year 6**

Start: 8.40am by the entrance to the fire exit steps at the end of the KS1 alleyway, near EYFS double-doors

End: 3.15pm leaving by the same door (Friday at 1.35pm)

We look forward to a busy, exciting and hopefully much more stable year. We will see all the children on the first day back, **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**, and wish you all a wonderful summer break.

With best regards,

The Year 5/6 team:

*Mrs Harmer (phase leader)*

*Miss Chew (6CC) and Mr Ballard (6GB) (Year 6)*

*Mrs Moran (5TM) and Mrs Kidd/Miss Rajska (5MRKK) (Year 5)*