



## Welcome to Year 6

The Year 6 teachers for 2020 - 2021 are Mrs Marisa Restorick, Mr. Craig Barter and Mr Steve Carter. Our teaching assistants to support learning are: Mrs Teresa Tutt, Mrs Lisa Porter, Mrs Paula Mutter and Miss Louise Bedford who offer a wealth of expertise to the year group. The Year 6 classrooms are situated in the huts/mobile rooms on the Key Stage 2 (Junior) playground.

**The school day will begin at 9.00am and the children will be collected by their class teacher and TA in the cage where their temperature will be taken and hand-sanitiser distributed. Year 6 children will finish at 3.30pm and again will leave the premises via the cage.**

### Year 6 Newsletter - Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome your children to Year 6 and give you some information to support Year 6 pupils in their learning.

We usually hold a parent/carer meeting during July before your children enter into year 6, however with strict guidelines in place to safeguard the school site, this year it was not possible. Our usual plans for year 6 will be slightly different and educational visits in the coming year will be subject to advice from the government, therefore dates for any outside activities are not able to be given at this time. Arrangements for year 6 will be subject to approval of risk assessments and direction from the Department for Education however there is important general information that we can give and which is contained in this Year 6 newsletter. In addition, please regularly look at the school website and the Year 6 page for: updates, news and photos sharing the pupil's learning achievements. We are also adhering to COVID19 guidance from the Government and Local Authority and this means that life at school is different to that which the children have been previously used to.

Year 6 is an important year in all children's lives and the time rapidly rushes by. Not only will your child be approaching the forthcoming transition to senior school, but in May 2021 all Year 6 pupils will sit the statutory end of Key Stage 2 tests, more commonly known as the SATs, in English (Reading and Grammar Punctuation and Spelling) and Maths. **SATs Week this year is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

**One main priority** of Year 6 is to prepare the pupils for their chosen secondary school and we work with all the local secondary schools: **All Saints, Atlantic Academy, Budmouth, Studio School (at Kingston Maurward) and Wey Valley**, to provide structured transition from St. George's. Shortly the senior schools in the area will be advertising and promoting evenings and open days for Year 6 pupils and their parents to visit and it is recommended you visit the websites and arrange a visit prior to making a choice. Please note **Budmouth** may have an entrance exam for children out of their catchment area, details will be on their website. Please get in touch directly with the schools or see their websites for further information. Applications for senior school are to be carried out online (Dorset for You website) and must be completed by the closing date, usually the **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**. (Applications received by this date will be informed of their outcome around the **1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**). Failure to apply by the deadline could result in you and your child missing out on your first choice of school.

We are going to outline the main areas of study in the curriculum which **your child** will be learning in the new term, should you wish to support and assist this learning it will be of immense benefit to your child. However, we would remind you that your child will be working at a level appropriate to their maturity and understanding and therefore may not cover all these areas.

## ENGLISH/LITERACY

As part of our work in Literacy, learning this term will focus on aspects of:

- \* Exploring a range of texts through reading comprehension
- \* Developing writing skills and the ability to write for a range of purposes
- \* Investigating vocabulary, spelling and word origins
- \* Further enhancement and reinforcement of grammatical skills

Your child will be given 2 school reading books on a Monday (if required) and these will be due in on a Thursday, if finished and the 'Accelerated Reader' quiz completed at home, so that the books can have the recommended quarantine period. **It is expected that daily home reading will be encouraged as it is essential for the whole curriculum and reading aloud to an adult is endorsed to encourage good pace, accuracy and comprehension skills.** It is the pupil's responsibility to return books to school, complete reading quizzes and care for these resources properly. Unfortunately, we do need to charge for loss or damage of books.

## MATHS/NUMERACY

We follow the objectives and requirements of the National Curriculum for Year 6. Much of the learning continues to develop skills in all areas of mathematical enquiry:

- \* Number using the 4 operations, rounding, ordering and number properties
- \* Problem solving based on 'real-life' problems
- \* Understanding of Fractions, Decimals and Percentages
- \* Handling, Reading and Recording Data
- \* Shape and space

Mental maths, arithmetic tests and times-table tests are carried out weekly and we hope you will continue to help your child practice their tables as they are vital for all mathematical development. Your child is subscribed to TT Rockstars and Mathletics and we fully recommend they use these online platforms to develop and support their mathematical development.

### Homework in Year 6:

Homework completion is imperative in Year 6 as it extends the pupils skills and prepares them for the demands of senior school. Homework this year will be a bit different as it will all be set on the Class Dojo page online as we cannot have books transferring from home and school because of COVID restrictions. Children will get their log-in and this can be completed on a PC, tablet or mobile.

**English and Maths homework will be given out on a Friday and expected to be completed by the next Wednesday,** also 10/ 15 spellings will be given on Friday and tested the following Friday.

**Please encourage your child to read on a daily basis and record this in their Reading Record, but for now this must be kept at home, also you can make comments on Class Dojo to indicate that your child has read to you and we still advocate that even the most able readers still read several pages aloud to you as this improves comprehension and accuracy.**

Homework will include the following:

- o **Daily reading with your child**
- o **Maths (Given Friday submitted by Wednesday)**
- o **English (Given Friday submitted by Wednesday)**
- o **Spellings (Tested on Fridays)**
- o **Topic projects (half termly)**

**Our topic for the autumn term is our locality and studying the geography and history of Portland. We will be using this as a theme in our DT, Art and English lessons too.**

All log-in details for all the online platforms that are available to the children will be put into their reading log so that you have these available at home. The reading log is also a useful tool as it contains a grammar glossary, spellings that the children should know before they finish year 6 and which could appear in the SATs test and are useful for homework. Please remember to record all

home reading as in the event of restrictions being lifted on resources coming into school our expectation is that the children will start bringing these back in on a daily basis.

## **PE/GAMES**

**All** children are required to take part in Physical Education lessons. In Year 6 this occurs on a Tuesday (6R & 6C) and Wednesday (6B) mornings and on Fridays all 3 classes will have Games.

**On a Friday the children will come to school wearing their PE kit** with their school sweatshirt or cardigan on top and come home in this, as part of the COVID guidance. Appropriate kit is needed: **black shorts, trainers/plimsolls and a white T shirt**,. In the colder weather of the winter months we strongly recommend that pupils bring tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt, as whenever dry we will attempt to work outside. In the hopeful event that restrictions are lifted we expect pupils to have a separate shirt for PE as we emphasise the importance and awareness of personal hygiene by changing clothes after sport.

If you ever have a query or worry regarding your child please do not hesitate to telephone the school office to speak to your child's class teacher. In addition, if you feel you have any resources/artefacts or a knowledge of any topic areas which could add to the experiences being provided at St.George's Primary please let us know.

Thank you  
The Year 6 Staff.

## **Important Dates throughout the year:**

- **SATs week 2021:-**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Monday 10th May 2021	English reading
Tuesday 11th May 2021	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling
Wednesday 12th May 2021	Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic Mathematics Paper 2: reasoning
Thursday 13th May 2021	Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

**Carey Camp Residential – unfortunately we are unable to make a decision yet as the centre is closed to residential because of COVID**