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To create a school where we all:
go further than we thought!
run faster than we hoped!
reach higher than we dreamed!
to become the people God meant us to be!!!!

All Children
deserve to feel...



Dear Year 6 Parents,

Welcome back to school, we hope that you have had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and have enjoyed the sunshine (and showers!).

The children have made a great start to their final year in primary school and seem very enthusiastic and motivated-let`s hope that they can keep it up all year...

The following newsletter is designed to keep you informed about the range of topics that will be covered by your child in the Year 6 class during the Autumn term. We are very much looking forward to teaching your children and are confident that the topics to be covered will inspire and enthuse....

Literacy

Our Literacy work concentrates on a number of skills:

- developing a good legible joined handwriting style
- understanding the conventions of standard English
- recognising the parts of speech such as nouns, verbs and their role in the structure of sentences.
- recognising and applying active and passive voice
- developing punctuation skills such as paragraphing, semi-colons, colons
- using study skills such as scanning, note taking, summarising and developing proof reading skills
- using the dictionary and thesaurus to extend and improve writing
- developing spelling strategies to extend their vocabulary and provide support for their spelling.



The children will study *The Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes and other forms of narrative poetry. They will also learn how to write clear instructions and explanations. Other literacy work will include historical stories; writing recounts and performance poetry.

The children will be split into ability groups for spellings; which will be given out on a Wednesday and tests will take place on Monday mornings.

Oral presentations will be based on "Hobbies and Interests" this term and the children will receive an information sheet and will be asked to select a date.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, the children will work on the following skills:

- ordering numbers and place value
- area and perimeter
- classifying shapes according to their properties
- understanding addition and subtraction and using mental and written techniques related to this
- understanding multiplication and division and using mental and written techniques related to this
- problems solving using all four operations
- using a calculator effectively
- fractions, decimals, percentages, ratios and proportion
- handling data

Mental arithmetic tests and multiplication challenges to improve and extend mental agility will be on Monday mornings. Your child should try to go onto the *Mathletics* website at least 3 times a week, they will have a timetabled session in school. They will be expected to keep our *Mathletics Hall of Fame* display up to date with their achievements.

Science: Y6 work this half term will focus on "Animals including humans"; the children will learn about the heart and circulatory system and explore and answer questions related to how these systems enable the body to function efficiently and effectively. As part of our work on Health Education we will also be discussing lifestyle choices beginning with a unit of work on "Smoking".

During the 2nd half term we will begin with revision of simple circuits and then gain lots of hands on experience with symbols, diagrams and incomplete circuits. Later we will compare series and parallel circuits then face some challenges!

On Tuesday-Friday afternoons the Year 4/5/6 children will be working together as a Junior Class completing units of work from the newly designed National Curriculum. Please see the Y4/5/6 Topic Web attached.

In **Physical Education** the Y4/5/6 children will be developing invasion skills during Wednesday afternoon sessions, with the support of leaders from York City Football in the Community. On Thursday afternoons the children will be taught gymnastics by the Easingwold Cluster School Development officer Mr Jackson. However due to our imminent netball matches we have asked Mr Jackson to lead a short series of netball skill sessions for the first few weeks.

Please could you ensure that your child has the correct kit in school for these sessions; white PE shirt, black or blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms and a warm sweatshirt/jumper (no hooded tops please as these can be a health and safety risk). The children will need a pair of trainers for games sessions. Long hair must be tied back and earrings removed or taped.

Homework, we are trialling a new homework system, giving the children a chance to earn points and prizes! Each term a set of tasks will be sent home, each task will be allocated a number of points, depending on how big a project it is. We will be expecting the children to complete a minimum number of projects but there will be no maximum...remember points make prizes! More details to follow...

The new system will begin after half term, in the meantime the children will be given one off homework tasks to complete, generally on a Thursday to be handed in on Tuesdays.

The Y6 children need to be prepared for their transition to secondary school so they may have additional homework tasks as the year progresses.

Home School Record the children will be encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning, this will include being self -motivated and organised, particularly with regard to meeting homework deadlines and being responsible for having the correct equipment. The home school record is an organisational tool which should support your child`s successful transition to secondary school. We will be providing opportunities in class for the children to record important information.

Please could we ask you to work in partnership with us through checking the home school record at the end of each week and by signing it. In this way you are reinforcing its importance - and can also make comments if you wish.

Reading- We have weekly Guided Reading sessions in small groups and there will be lots of opportunities during the school day where your child will be encouraged to read quietly, to read aloud and to read for understanding. However your child should also be encouraged to read on a regular basis at home to further develop their inference and deduction skills and develop a love of reading. Please could we ask for your support in ensuring that the children use their reading records so that we can monitor the range and frequency of their independent reading.

PurpleMash

The children should all have passwords and log-ins for this website, we are using it in school to support the computing curriculum, children may also have homework tasks which can be completed and saved in the class folder.

If you have any worries or concerns about any aspect of your child's time/work in school please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Adams or myself.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Botham/ Mrs Adams

