

Welcome to Upper Key Stage 2

Information for parents of children in Years 5&6 for the Autumn Term 2020

WELCOME BACK! We hope you all had a lovely Summer break! The UKS2 team are very excited about the term ahead and all the exciting learning opportunities that we have planned.

Our Upper Key Stage 2 Team: Year 5 - Mrs Taylor and Mrs Gath-Walker.

Year 6 - Mrs Rowe and Mrs Mingay.

School day timings

As we are currently following government guidance and implementing staggered starts, please ensure that your child is on time. The children will then come in, wash their hands and start their morning activities. The morning activities are an important part of the curriculum; they have been designed to support children in developing their key skills in reading and maths, as well as settle them into their daily routine.



Your **child/children are to enter the school building on their own** so that hand washing can be started straight away. Your child's class teacher will meet and greet the children as they come into the classroom. A member of the UKS2 team will be available at the doors should you have any **urgent** messages to pass onto any member of staff. Alternatively, you could contact the school office if you would like to arrange a telephone conversation with your child's class teacher.

Reading



Your child will be bringing home a reading book and reading record this week. When your child is ready to change their book, they will need to bring it back to school on a Thursday to be quarantined for 72 hours. Your child will be able to select a new book to take home on a Thursday, or a Monday, depending on the number of books in school being quarantined.

Please ensure that your child reads and discusses their book with you at home at least 5 times a week. It would be appreciated if you could log this in their reading records. We know how important reading is, as studies have shown that daily reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. We will call reading records in each half term so that we can award the children with 'High 5 reader' stars, if they have read to you 5 times each week.

Homework

You will receive an overview of the spellings that need to be learnt weekly at home and school and these will also be published in the home learning section on the school website. Please help your child to learn their spellings, ready for tests on a Monday morning. In the children's reading records there is also a word list, this is a list of words which the children need to be able to spell by the end of Year 6. Children will be allocated reading tasks on Reading Plus and Maths tasks on Times Table Rockstars, linked to their learning. Please see your child's reading diary for their log in details.

The new homework challenges will be sent home this week too! Completing the tasks will help your child to consolidate their learning, through a range of enjoyable and educational activities.

Our Topic

The theme of this term's topic is 'Changes'. The topic mat shares the knowledge, vocabulary and key texts for you to support your child at home. They will be learning about Evolution and Inheritance and Electricity in Science. In History, they will be learning about World War 2 and comparing similarities and differences between life then and now. During the second half term children will be learning about food hygiene and a healthy diet in DT. Writing opportunities and a wealth of vocabulary will be explored through our text, 'Goodnight Mister Tom', which is set in World War 2 Britain.

Outdoor activities and PE:

Years 5 and 6 will have Forest Schools every Wednesday until half term. Please remember to send your child with clothing for every weather eventuality - waterproofs, layers and wellies. We will be outside in all weather.

The Year 5 children will have PE on a Friday.

The Year 6 children will have PE on a Monday.

When your child has PE they will need to come to school in their PE kit with their school jumper on. Children will not have the opportunity to get changed at school.

Absence from school.

If your child is unable to attend school, please let us know as soon as possible. It is very important that your child's attendance does not fall below 96%. There is evidence that progress is slowed when attendance is inconsistent.

Water Bottles:

In school, the children have access to drinking water at all times; please can the children bring in their own **NAMED** water bottles from home to keep in the classroom (these can also be taken out during PE sessions).

Administration of medicines

If your child requires medication at school, you must complete an administration of medication form which is available in the office. We can administer prescribed medication, supplied in a named container with instructions. If your child has an inhaler, it must be named and in school at all times.

Marvellous Me

We love to send messages home to keep you updated about your child's achievements in school. Please make sure that you are signed up to Marvellous Me and don't forget to 'High 5' us!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know. If you feel that you would like to share your skills with us linked to our topics, we would be delighted to hear your ideas.

Thank you very much for your continued support, The Year 5 and 6 Team!