

Year 6 Newsletter number 1 – Autumn 2016

Welcome back to the new school year! This is an important year as we will be working hard for the SATs in May as well as preparing the children for High School.

We have lots of topics this term, starting off with the Geography of the UK. We will also be learning about Electricity and Light and travelling back in time to discover the Ancient Mayans.

In English, we are reading a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry and a lot of different kinds of writing will come from this. We are also going to be working on grammar and spelling rules.

How you can help: listen to your child reading, and question them about what they have read. If you're not sure about the kinds of questions to ask, please come in and talk to us. This website has lots of activities for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

In Maths, we will be looking at lots of different aspects of numbers, such as rounding, negative numbers and decimals, as well as basic calculation methods, properties of shape and data handling.

How you can help: practise multiplication tables with your child. Ask them to show you the tables grid they have brought home and explain to you how to use it. Tables are so important and will help them with so many other areas of maths during the year. Take a look at this website for lots of fun, interactive games your child can play:

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

Our class assembly will be on Wednesday **12th October** at 9:10am. We do hope that you will be able to join us.

Our PE days are Monday and Friday. Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school, all clearly marked with their name. This should include a T-shirt, shorts, plimsolls or trainers for inside PE and trainers or Astros for outside PE. A tracksuit might also be useful when it is cold. If your child cannot easily deal with their earrings, it would be better not to wear them on PE days.

Homework is an important part of your child's school day and will be given out each Friday, to be returned by the following Wednesday. Homework will include daily reading of at least 15 minutes (this could be to themselves, to you or a mix of the two), spellings to learn and practising a times table, and may also include a MyMaths activity based on work covered in class during the week. There will be research activities too, including homework projects that run over several weeks. I will tell you more about these later on. We have given your child some equipment to keep which will help them to be able to get on with their homework, as well as a dictionary/thesaurus which will need to be returned to school at the end of the year. We appreciate your support in helping your child to do their homework and taking responsibility for their own work in preparation for high school. If your child has problems completing their homework, they need to come and talk to either me or Mrs Turner before the deadline and we will be happy to give them a hand.

If your child would like a school meal, please can they bring their dinner money in a clearly named purse or envelope. This could be done either at the beginning of the week, or on the day that your child would like a lunch. If you are paying for more than one day, it is helpful for you to let us know which days your child would like lunches. In order to build your child's sense of responsibility, they should place this money in the classroom basket in the morning. If you need change, this will be returned in your child's purse or envelope at the end of the day. Thank you for your cooperation.

Diary dates – Crowden trip: 26th-30th September, Crucial Crew (covering all aspects of personal safety) – Greshams Prep School: week beginning 17th October.

If you have any concerns, please come in and talk to me or pop a note inside your child's planner as I check these weekly. I hope we will have a happy and successful year working together.

Mrs Kurtz