



Tuesday, 05 September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 6 Autumn Term Newsletter**

I would like to take this opportunity to **welcome** you and your child to Year 6! I am really excited to be sharing in your children's final year at primary school, supporting and challenging them to fulfil their potential and be the best that they can be.

Attached, you will find a **Curriculum Map** with a brief outline of the work we will be covering this term. I hope you find this useful as you discuss school life with your child.

Please be advised of the following points:-

- My planning, preparation and assessment time (PPA) is on a **Monday** morning when the children will be taught French and RE by Mrs Wilson and Mrs Papworth respectively. Time will also be set aside during the morning for changing library books.
- P.E. lessons will take place on **Thursdays**. Children should have both indoor and outdoor kits in school and will be expected to fully participate unless they have a note to excuse them. Ideally, PE kits should remain in school all week in the event that we have an extra session. Children wearing earrings must be able to remove them by themselves, or supply earring tape from home; long hair must be tied back and a change of socks for P.E. lessons is also very important.

- Indoor kit: white school T-shirt, red shorts and plimsolls.
- Outdoor kit: tracksuit or similar and trainers.

- **Swimming** lessons take place on Friday afternoons at Colneis Junior School, commencing this week: Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September. Please ensure your child brings his/her kit, including swimming hat. Please inform the school **in writing** if you are happy for your child to wear goggles; without this consent, pool staff will not permit your child to wear goggles.
- *Please, please, please* ensure that all items of clothing are **named**, since "without a name, they're all the same!"
- A reminder that dinner money should be placed in a **marked, sealed envelope** – please do not give your child loose change. Alternatively, money may be paid online via the link on the school website, if this is more convenient for you. Children may bring a (preferably healthy) snack for morning play or money for the tuck trolley.

Toast costs 10p and other items no more than 50p: the children are responsible for looking after their own snack money.

- **Reading records** should be in school **every day**. These booklets can be used as a means of you communicating with me, but please tell your child to thrust the book under my nose (!) as these will not be checked daily.
- It will be **hugely beneficial** to your child if you are able to hear them **read regularly** at home. Please record, as appropriate, in their reading record.
- Children will receive **maths homework** every Friday – to be returned the following Friday – and will reflect recent learning or provide practice of number facts, calculation methods or application of these.
- Children recognised for effort, achievement or demonstrating the half-termly value will be awarded in Friday assemblies and recorded on the wall of achievement outside the school reception. Do feel free to share in your child's success by coming in to look at their name, 'etched' on the wall.

I will be holding a Parent Briefing session on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September at 3.45pm. This session will largely consist of me going over the points in this newsletter and providing a little more detail – if required. It will also be an opportunity for you to make yourself known to me, make me aware of anything you think is important (although, obviously, I have had conversations with Mrs Wheeler as part of our transition process) and ask any questions.

Year 6 brings **challenges** as well as privileges and, despite our best efforts to manage the negative impact of these challenges on your child, some anxiety is likely. To help to allay concerns, I will provide more detailed information about the Mersea Island residential trip, SATs tests and High School transition arrangements closer to the time.

However, should you have any queries or concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you do need to talk to me first thing, I politely request that you come to the front of the line. Once the children start filing in, my attention is on supervising them which can make conversation rather difficult. Thank you for your understanding.

I look forward to working with you to support your child on their learning journey.

Yours faithfully,

**Clare Varden**  
Year 6 Class teacher



**Suffolk**  
County Council