

Welcome to Year 6



Mrs Heathfield – Class teacher,
and
Mrs Nicklin – Higher Level Teaching
Assistant.

Welcome back to Year 6! Year 6 is a year full of new challenges and this year we have some great new topics to inspire and motivate the children to achieve and exceed the expected outcomes by the end of the year.

Our first topic is called 'Code Breakers'. In this topic we will be learning all about World War 2 and the important jobs that the code breakers had to help stop the war. The second topic we will be learning about is 'Terrible Tudors' where we will be learning about Henry VIII and crime and punishment!

In the Spring term our topics are 'Endurance' and 'Extreme Earth'.

The Summer term will be all about 'Health and Wellbeing' and 'The Titanic'.

Please see the separate topic plans for more details of what the children will be learning.

What to expect in Year 6

Arriving at school and the morning routine

The children come straight in to school via the door to the Year 5/6 building. The children will be greeted by their teacher here and they will hang up any coats on their peg and then enter the classroom. They will be expected to take their reading book and reading diary out of their book bag, put it on their desk and then put their bag in the correct book box (labelled with their name). Their water bottle needs to go in the water bottle tray next to the sink. Once they have done all of this they will sit down with a white board and pen ready to complete the 'Early morning challenge'.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register and that they don't miss the *Early Work* that has been set for them to do.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register as we will be starting guided reading at 9am.

Mrs Heathfield or Mrs Cope will be standing at the classroom door from 8.40am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on do so then alternatively you can catch her at the end of the day. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the school office.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch, school dinner or the option of a baked potato if they do not like what is on the menu for that day. Please discuss this with your child. If your child is having a hot dinner, this needs to be ordered via the Relish website.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure all uniform (including, coats and shoes) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please check that your child has all the required PE kit – light blue T-shirt with school logo, black shorts, plain black hooded sweatshirt, optional plain black track suit trousers for cold weather, trainers/plimsolls, a pair of socks.

P.E bags can be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless we have got particularly muddy or soaking wet during a lesson.



Reading

In Year 6 the children will choose a book appropriate to their ability. This might be a reading scheme book or a chapter book that they will bring home. At St Lawrence we do not have one set reading scheme to follow; we use a variety of books from a range of schemes and non-scheme books. We will help your child to choose a book appropriate to their reading ability. They can change their book whenever they have finished reading it but we ask that you record this in their planner (reading record pages found at the front of the planner) and write a short comment. Planners will be collected in every Monday morning and will be checked that they have been signed weekly by an adult and that they have been reading at least 3 times a week, also signed.

In Year 6 each child reads at least once a week to an adult.

How you can support your child's reading at home

- Please hear your child read as often as possible.
- Record a short comment in their planner.
- Read to your child; a variety of stories as well as non-fiction.

Guided Reading

Guided reading will take place every day except Friday from 9:15am. They will be in small groups with an adult and will read a section of a text (fiction or non-fiction) and will answer questions based on what has been read. This will help their retrieval and inference skills. On other days when they are not with an adult they will carry out other reading skills activities.

Library

The children can choose a book from the library to take home. Our library day is **Friday**.



Writing

Year 6 should now have a legible, fluent and personal handwriting style. We will continue to practise handwriting and children who need extra support will have the opportunity to work in a small adult led group.

By the end of Year 6, children will be expected to:

- Use subordinate clauses to write complex sentences.
- Use passive voice where appropriate.
- Use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely (e.g. The fact that it was raining meant the end of sports day).
- Evidence of sentence structure and layout matched to requirements of text type.
- Use:
 - Semi-colon, colon, dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses.
 - Correct punctuation of bullet points.
 - Hyphens to avoid ambiguity.
 - Full range of punctuation matched to requirements of text type.
- Use wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs.
- Use paragraphs to signal change in time, scene, action, mood or person.

Spelling

The school are following 'Sir Linkalot' which is an online scheme where children are taught spellings in lists via the use of videos which teach children tips and strategies, enabling students to learn how to spell hundreds of 'common exception words'. This is done daily for 5-10 minutes. You can access these spellings at home via the app. There will be no weekly spelling lists sent home as they will practice what they have learnt in school.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home. We will be conducting lots of investigations this year so children will be applying knowledge and skills with greater independence. They will need to explain what they have found out to demonstrate mastery of the concepts taught.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time

- Measure height. Use scales to weigh cooking ingredients. Discuss different units of measure e.g. centimetres, millimetres, grams, litres.
- Multiply 4-digit whole numbers by 2-digit whole numbers.
- Divide numbers up to 4-digits by a 2-digit whole numbers and recognise remainders.
- Multiply and divide decimals by 10, 100 or 1000 in their head.
- Multiply and divide a number with up to two decimal places by 1-digit and 2-digit whole numbers.
- Work out simple % of whole numbers.
- Use ratio to show the relative sizes of two quantities.

Homework

English / maths

Homework is set weekly (given out on a Thursday and due in the following Tuesday). They will be a set a maths and English task which might be writing, a reading comprehension or SPaG based. All homework will be based on what has been covered in school.

Reading

Please read regularly with your child – 10 minutes every school night is ideal.

Spelling

Practise daily spellings.

Times tables

Recite all times tables up to x12 and related division facts

What does a typical day in Year 6 look like?

The mornings usually follow the same timetable of maths and English activities. The afternoon sessions vary from day to day and half term to half term. We take on a termly topic so our science, history or geography, design technology, art and music usually relate to the topic. Other subject areas including computing, R.E, Personal Social, Health, Emotional and Citizenship education (PSHE&C) and P.E. are taught every week as discrete subjects.

All sessions include focused, adult-led tasks and independent tasks.

Here is an example of a day in Year 6:

8.40am – Classroom doors open. Registration and Early Morning work.

9.00am – Collective Worhsip

9:15am - Guided Reading, individual reading and grammar activities

9.45am – English

10:45am – Playtime

11.00am - Maths

12.15 – 1.15pm - Lunchtime

1.15pm – Register

Topic lesson (which might be science, history, geography, art or DT based).

2.35pm – PSHE

3.20pm – Hometime



I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything.