**September 2016 Newsletter**

Dear children and parents/carers,

Mrs Francis and I very much hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and are now ready for the start of what will be a very busy, exciting, sometimes challenging but definitely a rewarding year ahead. Mrs Francis is looking forward to joining us in October. We've planned together so that we are both 'in the know' as to what each of us is doing and what we're expecting you to achieve. She's even brought some of her belongings into the class already to make it feel more homely.

This year you will have Mrs Clarke to support in class for most of the week. As she worked alongside Mrs McGie in Y6 last year, Mrs Clarke has a good understanding of the Y6 curriculum and will be able to help us with our learning. She will teach you RE.

The children have come back really positive about their learning and are already working hard.

**Being in Year 6**

This is a very special year for you because this is the year you get ready to move onto high school. We want you to have all the skills, knowledge and understanding you will need to start the next stage of your learning journey. However, it is really important that you play your part in getting ready too. How? These are the main ideas we came up with as we discussed what it means to be in Year 6.

* Having a positive attitude and being self-motivated to do your very best.
* Being organised (having everything you need in school on the right day eg PE kit)
* Be punctual - being in school between 8.45 and 8.55am ready to start the day promptly.
* Attending school as much as possible (most of you have excellent attendance - keep it up!)
* Being focussed in class on your own learning and letting others learn too
* Listening to and acting on the advice the teachers give you to help you improve your work
* Doing MORE than the minimum needed and challenging yourself
* Not giving up when the learning seems tricky...it is not that you 'can't do it'...you 'can't do it YET!' It is about building your resilience and being able to persevere and we're here to help you with new strategies and support when things seem really tricky.
* Doing your homework to the best of your ability and putting in extra time to over-learn important things like maths facts, spelling rules and grammar terms.
* Reading daily and for longer. Reading a wide range of literature - a balanced diet of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Try to speed up your reading pace.
* Being a fantastic role model to the younger year groups
* Taking on responsibilities in our new School Parliament as a member of one of the following: The Environment Agency, Education Committee, Sport and Health Committee, Community and Charity committee

**Teaching and Learning**

We have a whole school theme each term for this new school year and we begin with **'Into the forest'.**

The quality text to lead our learning this term is **Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver** (one of my favourite reads). It is an exciting tale full of both fantastic description and clever sentence structures that draw the reader in to Torak's story and makes you want keep turning the pages. I know that the story will help us develop our creative writing skills this term and provides the stimulus for lots of our learning in other subjects too. You may like to buy your own copy to read along with us in school.

Many of the curriculum subjects has been woven together to make our learning more meaningful this term. The holistic Autumn term overview gives a flavour of the work we will be covering. We will try to learn outside of the classroom as much as possible, so please do bring a coat to school, even if the morning is bright and sunny as you leave home. We will go outside whatever the weather.

Here is your **weekly timetable** for this term:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Session 1** | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG | Literacy  reading/ writing / SPAG  French  Mrs Sharpe |
| **Morning break** | | | | | |
| **Session 2** | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy |
| **Lunch - 1 hr** | | | | | |
| **15 mins assemblies** | Assembly PHSE | Assembly  House/Y6 led | Assembly  Singing | Assembly  In the news | Learning Journey |
| **Session 3** | Learning Journey | PE  Sportscape | Swimming Wk 2-11  *Learning Journey wk 12 onwards* | Learning Journey |
| **Session 4** | RE  Mrs Clarke | Y6 Stars of the week Assembly |

Note: *Learning Journey time will be used to cover the other subjects - Science, geography, history, computing, art, D&T and music.*

**PE:** You MUST be prepared for PE with a full kit - red tee-shirt, black shorts and trainers. A sweatshirt/joggers in grey/black/ navy for the colder sessions is recommended.

**Regular homework:**

* **Maths** - for Mondays - Mymaths **and/or** other maths homework

Note: you can log ontoMymaths at any time to consolidate your learning and work through their ***Booster Packs***, not just as directed homework.

* **Spellings** - Spelling test on Thursdays. You will also be required to learn all the 100 Y5/6 words and revise the year 3/4 list of words. You are well on your way with this. They are tricky words so will need extra time to learn.
* **Additional homework** will come in many guises; it could be key facts to learn, revision/consolidation of class learning, research, preparation for a lesson, spelling investigations, a short writing task, problem solving or a making task. It will be given out weekly (if a shorter task) with a few days to complete or fortnightly for a longer task. All homework should be of a very good quality. *'If something is worth doing, it is worth doing well!'*
* **Daily reading** for at least 30 minute

Once we have completed the baseline assessments for the start of this term, regular homework will begin to be sent home. Children should already be reading daily and can log into Mymaths to get started themselves.

**Upcoming events for the class**

Y6 will be first with swimming lessons this year. The lessons begin on Wednesday 14th September at Nantwich Swimming Baths and will run for 10 weeks. A separate letter will be sent out with details.

Y6 and Y3 will be participating in Singfest '17 'Popera' in March and will start to learn the songs after a massed choir rehearsal on Thursday 6th October. Again a letter will be sent out about the rehearsal.

I am liaising with Mrs Francis on an educational visit for the class this term.

**Parent partnership**

As you all know, good parent partnership is key to your child's success at Wrenbury. The children had a very good year with Miss Phillips last year and we need to continue building on this in the year ahead. To this end, **please do attend the Pastoral Meeting planned for Wednesday 21st September at 4.45pm**. This meeting will introduce you to the Y6 curriculum and what your child and your-selves should expect during the year. Mrs Francis will also attend the meeting and together we will also be sharing information on what to expect in the Y6 SATs and what you can do to support your child at home.

In the meantime, and beyond the Pastoral Meeting, if you have any concerns or queries do feel free to approach me during the ‘meet and greet’ in the mornings (either at the entrance to Base 5 or on the back playground by school house) or contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time for us to meet.

Do remember that all regular communication between home and school is brought to the class teacher and sent if it needs to be sent to the office, the class teacher will forward to Debbie in the Base 5’s ‘office-class wallet’.

Despite Mrs Francis not being able to join us immediately, she is very much focussed on Wrenbury and the class and is looking forward to working with us shortly. In the meantime, please be assured that Mrs Clarke and I will give the class the very best of our experience of and passion for teaching and learning to give your child the very best start to Y6.

Just a reminder that all regular communication between home and school is brought to the class teacher initially and will be forwarded, if it needs to go to the school office, via the class teacher in the Base 5’s ‘office-class wallet’.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cador, Mrs Francis and Mrs Clarke