



WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 1

Year 6

Welcome

I hope you have all had a restful summer and that your children have re-charged their batteries ready for the new school year. This year is obviously a very important one, with the children sitting their SATs. The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and they have already shown that they are eager to have a successful year, setting themselves personal aims and goals. Their approach to learning has been fantastic and I can already tell that they will give 100% to their learning this year.

The children are particularly looking forward to the roles and responsibilities that come in year 6. A particular favourite is the buddy system with reception children, where they help the younger children settle in the Lunch Hall. They are also looking forward to leading Community Worship as well as leading other assemblies during the year and writing the prayers that are shared daily with the rest of the school.

Maths

At the end of the summer term, the children sat a sample SATs papers. Over the summer, I have looked in detail at each child's papers to identify the areas that they need to work on over this year alongside the areas detailed in the National Curriculum for y6 in maths. This is informing our day-to-day teaching in maths and small-group/ individual support.

If you would like a detailed breakdown of the areas your child needs to master before May, so that you can support them at home, then please let me know. As May approaches, I will plan for further SATs practice so that the children become familiar with style and layout of the papers. I will share their results throughout the year.

Dates and Things to Remember

Year 6 P.E. days are Mondays and Fridays. It would be helpful if the children could keep an old shirt (with long sleeves) at school to protect their school uniform when painting etc.

English

As with maths, our learning in English is guided by both the government's National Curriculum and the gaps identified in the practice test. The government and Ofsted continue to place a high level of importance to reading – as a sound reading ability allows children to access all subjects when they move to secondary schooling. Therefore regular reading at home is crucial to success.

Topic

Our topic this term is Invaders and Settlers. We have already had our 'WOW Day', where the class experienced the challenges faced by early settlers by playing a game called Kingdom, in which they had to 'grow' their tribe by either trading with other settlements, building houses or launching daring raids on other tribes. They held a debate to decide the best location for a new settlement from locations that had unique features, e.g. access to natural resources, and made Anglo Saxon broaches. Later in our topic we will learn about the Roman withdrawal from Briton, the rise of the Anglo Saxons and Viking raids. Full details can be found in the attached Knowledge Organiser.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Thursday and needs to be handed in on a Tuesday. Spelling tests will take place on a Thursday. Completion of homework is essential for year 6. The homework that we set is designed to secure their understanding of the topics covered in lessons. We will continue with a focus on *reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar, and maths*.

It is worth noting there was also a sharp increase in the pass mark for reading between the 2016 and 2017 tests. Therefore, we are providing both a class reading book and a 10-minute comprehension activity to help prepare children for this challenge.

Our Value for this month is Respect

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information <http://www.westhaddonprimary.net>

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