



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 6 Curriculum Letter – Summer Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

As ever, we have an extremely busy term ahead, so I hope you have all enjoyed a restful Easter break! This term is, of course, Year 6's final one with us. The children have returned full of energy and enthusiasm, and have really hit the ground running this week, so I am confident this will be their most successful yet.

KS2 tests

I've been enormously proud of how mature our Year 6's have been in their approach to the forthcoming KS2 tests, with everyone really rising to the challenge and aspiring to do their best. The content of the tests is significantly harder this year, with the expected standard of 10 & 11 year olds having risen dramatically, but this class has continued to surpass my (high!) expectations throughout the year. Results from our recent 'mock' test week, in which the pupils sat a sample version of the new tougher tests, were very pleasing and I am confident they are ready to tackle the real ones in May. Here are the all-important dates:

Monday 9 th May	Tuesday 10 th May	Wednesday 11 th May	Thursday 12 th May
Reading test	Spelling, punctuation and grammar tests – papers 1 & 2.	Maths tests – papers 1 & 2.	Maths test – paper 3.

I'd like to reiterate my key message that these KS2 tests are designed to assess the school, rather than the pupils. They are not a qualification or an entrance exam, and really should not be the cause of undue worry or stress. Please do come and see me if you or your child has any concerns relating to the tests, but please rest assured that they are fully prepared and ready to do well.

If you would like to do some practise at home to complement the revision we are doing in class, the 'Achieve 100' range of books – available from online book retailers – contain lots of good practise questions in the style of the test and reflect the new, tougher content.

This term's topic

The first four weeks of this term will primarily be spent preparing for the KS2 tests, and so our final topic will begin in earnest from Monday 16th May. This topic – Islands and Independence – will focus on Michael Morpurgo's book 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. As well as geography based work on islands, this will include plenty of Art, Science and DT, to ensure the children get a chance to have a creative outlet after all their hard work on Literacy and Maths in the lead up to their tests! One of the key themes of 'Kensuke's Kingdom' is independence, which ties in nicely with the transition work we will be doing ahead of the move to secondary school.

Topic Books

We will continue to use World War Two as a writing prompt in the first few weeks of this term, so Year 6's spring topic books will go home on Friday 29th April

P.E.

P.E. lessons will continue to be on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings for the first half term. After half term, however, Year 6's outdoor PE slot will move from a Tuesday afternoon to a Wednesday afternoon (owing to changes in the hall's availability, which we need to have available in the event of rain). It is, in any case, useful to have P.E. kit in school all week from Monday morning, as the children may need them for clubs and ad-hoc sporting activities at different points during the week. Please continue to ensure kits are taken home over the weekend to be washed. If your child wears earrings and it is not possible for them to be removed for P.E., please let me know.

Homework

Homework tasks continue to be set once a week, typically in Literacy and Maths but occasionally in other subjects as well. This will be set each Tuesday and due in again the following Tuesday. Additional copies of the homework, if required, are left in folders in the classroom, or can be found online if children log in to the school's website. Occasionally you may wish to add a comment on to your child's homework if there is anything you feel I should know about how they got on.

Reading

Regular reading is essential, daily if possible. This could include reading books (fiction and non-fiction), newspapers, magazines and comics. In fact, the wider the range of genres that your child reads the better. Lots of our writing this term will relate to tailoring writing for different audiences, purposes and genres, so reading a range of texts will help them really understand how writing differs depending on the context. Many children will be reading independently, but please do continue to discuss the books or texts your child is reading from time to time – this helps to consolidate their understanding of the what they are reading.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out and tested every Tuesday morning. I have been extremely impressed with spelling test scores so far this year, thank you for your continued support in helping your children to learn them.

Thanks, as always, for your support. I look forward to being involved in your pupil's final term with us hope to make it their most enjoyable yet.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. D Vass
Year 6 Class teacher