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## St. John's Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Welcome message from the Year 6 team 2023/24**

We hope that you have all had a fantastic summer and are feeling as excited as we are for this new chapter. The Year 6 team is ready and waiting to ensure that the school year ahead is filled with creativity, productivity and many new challenges for the children to tackle and learn from. We are looking forward to meeting and working in collaboration with each and every one of you! We hope that you are also able to enjoy the new approaches to learning that Year 6 encompasses and join us in celebrating the children's many accomplishments along the way.

#### Staffing

This year the children of Sycamore class (6A) will be taught by Mr. Yarlett and assisted by Mrs. Janes. The children of Willow class (6B) will be taught by Miss. Drew and assisted by Mrs. Attwood.

#### ***What will children be learning?***

##### Literacy

In addition to whole class guided reading sessions, the children will be learning to write pieces for each of the following genres of writing:

- Narratives
- Poetry
- Informal and formal letters
- Balanced arguments
- Biographies
- Persuasive pitches/speeches
- Diary entries
- Newspaper articles
- Procedural writing

Throughout the year, the children will also continue their learning of English spelling, punctuation and grammar in line with the National Curriculum.

##### Mathematics

Within each academic term, the children will study a variety of skills of which fall into the following units of learning:

- Term 1: Place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Term 2: Fractions and converting measures
- Term 3: Ratio, algebra and decimals
- Term 4: Fractions, decimals & percentages; area, perimeter & volume; statistics
- Term 5: Shape and geometry
- Term 6: Consolidating knowledge and investigating Year 7 content

Topic learning:

<u>History:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Georgians &amp; The Bristol Slave Trade</li><li>• WW2</li></ul>	<u>Geography:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tectonic Hazards</li><li>• Kenya: A Changing Country</li><li>• The UK</li></ul>
<u>Science:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The circulatory system and body health</li><li>• Evolution and inheritance</li><li>• Light and electricity</li></ul>	<u>Religious Studies:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Islam</li><li>• Christianity</li><li>• Humanism</li></ul>

***What will my child need and when?***

Forest School

Forest School will take place on Wednesday afternoons in Year 6. For these sessions, it is important that children are dressed in weather-appropriate clothing to remain safe. Each child must have the following items available for each session:

- Long sleeved t-shirt
- Long trousers
- Wellington boots
- Spare pair of socks
- Waterproof trousers and coats
- A hats and pair of gloves (winter months)

Children are **not required** to wear or bring in their school uniform on Wednesdays and should arrive at school dressed in their forest school clothing.

Forest School Sessions:

- Sycamore: Terms 1, 3, and 5
- Willow: Terms 2, 4 and 6

Sycamore's Forest School sessions for Term 1 will take place on Wednesday in Term 1 - week days for future terms are to be confirmed.

Physical Education:

Year 6 children will need their full PE kits in school every Monday. In addition to this, during the term in which children are not having forest school, they will need their PE kits on Fridays. Children are expected to have an appropriate PE kit, including:

- A purple school PE t-shirt or plain purple t-shirt
- Black shorts, leggings, or joggers
- Trainers and/or daps

We advise that the children take their PE kits home every Friday to ensure the kit is suitable for the following week.

Reading:

Every Year 6 child is expected to be reading at home at least 3 times a week. Your child has our permission to record their reading journal independently, however, we also strongly welcome parent comments in these journals as this is a great way to maintain positive attitudes towards reading and home-school contact. Reading journals will be monitored by teaching staff on a weekly basis. We will also be recording the number

of books completed by children within Year 6 throughout the year. Once the children have read a certain amount of books, they will be rewarded with a certificate to acknowledge their dedication and achievement.

Homework:

Every week, children will receive a selection of **spellings** to practise at home. These typically are based on the learning that has taken place in lessons during the week or areas where children need additional practice in order to ensure consolidation. In addition to this, children are expected to engage with **Doodlemaths** via <https://doodlelearning.com/> for ten minutes each day.

Homework is set every Friday and due every Wednesday to be checked by teachers. **This system will commence from Week 2 of Term 1.**

***Non-negotiables:***

Children are expected to be fully equipped with their reading diary and water bottle every day - these are to be taken home at the end of every school day. All children are expected to arrive at school each morning wearing the full and correct uniform. School shoes must be worn and uniforms should not be embellished; sandals, trainers, jewellery and cosmetics are not permitted.

We want to reassure you that we know first-hand that the first term is just as much about settling in for both teachers and parents as it is for the children. Please, do not hesitate to come to us with any questions or queries throughout the year!

Many thanks,

Mr. Yarlett and Miss. Drew  
*Year 6 class teachers*