

Note from the Year 6 Team

What an amazing start to this term we have had this past week! The Y6s have strived to display our school values and we have been so proud of the way in which they have demonstrated such a mature learning attitude from the very first day back. We are looking forward to what will be an incredible year with so many memories to create and special occasions to celebrate, marking this final step in their primary school journey. We cannot wait to kick-start this off with our residential visit to Castleton and we know that the children are going to love it! We have already been discussing meals, rooms, activities and there's a great buzz around the class about it. Please remember that the wellbeing of your children is at the top of our agenda; if you have any questions or concerns related to your child, please do not hesitate to email or ring the school office and either Mrs Perkins or Miss Smales will contact you as soon as we are able to.

*We are looking forwards to working in partnership with you this school year,
Mrs Perkins and Miss Smales (Team Y6)*

Important Information

Day	Who's in class	Extra info
Monday	Mrs Perkins (all day) Miss Smales (all day)	New spellings introduced in class New text introduced in whole class reading and sent home today Active 15 Basketball with Mrs perkins and Miss Smales
Tuesday	Mrs Perkins (all day) Miss Smales (all day)	Active 15 Basketball with Mrs Perkins and Mack
Wednesday	Mrs Perkins (all day) Miss Smales (morning)	Active 15 Music with Ms Hollis from Wales High School
Thursday	Mrs Perkins (all day) Miss Smales (all day)	Learning logs checked for reading practice at home Active 15
Friday	Miss Smales (all day)	Active 15

Dates for your diary

- Thursday 19th September: Individual Photographs
- Thursday 19th September: Harvest Festival at 11am in Church (KS2 only)
- Monday 23rd September – Wednesday 25th September: Residential
- Wednesday 23rd October: Crucial Crew Visit (You will receive a letter with information about this visit after residential)
- Friday 25th October: INSET Day
- Monday May 12th – Thursday May 15th 2025: SATs Week

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY DURING SATS WEEK

Key things to practise daily/weekly at home

Spellings

As last year, we will be working our way through the statutory spelling lists for Upper Key Stage 2. Hawthorn's spellings for Autumn Term 1 are listed below. We will focus on three of these spellings each week in class but the children will also need to practice these at home.

aggressive	ancient	awkward	communicate	desperate	develop
disastrous	environment	especially	forty	immediate	marvellous
muscle	queue	recognise	recommend	suggest	vehicle

Reading

Daily (or every other day) practise of reading from the whole class read text or reading for pleasure book and recording in their learning logs will also really help as reading is the absolute key to understanding all other areas of the curriculum. Please note that reading for pleasure books can be swapped any day of the week. All children will have their whole class read text (changed weekly, studied in class from Monday to Wednesday and sent home on a Monday and Tuesday) as well as a book they will read for pleasure. If your child could aim to read daily, or at least 4 times a week, and log this (and any other reading) in their learning log, we can then see and support your child from there. We are encouraging the children to read widely and to talk about what they have read at home, at school and to focus on expression, fluency and then demonstrate the ability to discuss the text, talk about the vocabulary and their understanding. Online books are on Active Learn and new ones can be added - we check them regularly and update them; if your child needs more, please let us know.

Online Learning Platforms

Times Tables Rockstars, Numbots and Active Learn are the 3 online platforms that we use in class and there is an expectation that your child can access these at home too independently. There will be 2 sessions a week in school allocated for these and 1 session (approx. 20mins) for homework. Usernames and passwords are at the front of the learning logs. Please see us if you require any further information about these.

Website	Resources
www.activelearnprimary.co.uk	A variety of eBooks allocated to your child individually.
https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/60522	Times Tables Practice.
https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/60522	Key Addition and Subtraction Practice.

What we will be learning this term

<p>Focused text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AbominationPoetry <p>English genres- Narrative and Recount</p>	<p>Maths concepts covered- Y5: Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division</p> <p>Time tables to practise- Your child needs to have instant recall of all facts up to 12 x 12. They should respond to any times tables question such as 8 x 7 as quickly as they can respond to the question 'What's your name?' It would be beneficial for you continue to recap the 4s and 8s this half term.</p>
<p>Other Curricular areas: In PE this half term, through sports education, we will be working on basketball skills before putting these into practice in tournaments where the children will work across the half term in teams. In Science, we will study evolution and inheritance and look closely at the changes to our class tree, the Hawthorn. In History, learning will focus on some of the main achievements and advances in the 19th and 20th century. Within Art, we will focus on the artist Edgar Degas and work towards producing detailed drawings using a range of techniques. Music lessons will be in small groups with a music teacher from Wales High School and we will learn how to play the ukulele as well as the djembe drums. Within Geography, we will explore climate change and renewable energy with a particular focus on wind energy. Computing learning will focus on spreadsheets. In RE, we will look closely at Christian Aid, Khalsa Aid and Islamic Relief and PHSE will explore the theme 'Being me in my world'. In Spanish, we will be looking at key greetings, phrases and numbers from 30 to 100 as well as phrases linked to our past.</p>	
<p>Showcasing our learning this half term Watch this Space! → Our class blog will be updated regularly this half term with pictures from our upcoming residential visit to Castleton and our visit to Crucial Crew.</p>	

Expectations of you and your child

- **Importance of school-** Ensure your child recognises the importance of coming to school so that they are ready to listen, learn and play an active part in their learning journey in their final year of primary school.
- **Behaviours-** Our school rules are ready, respectful and safe. Our school values are belonging, kindness, ambition and resilience. Your support in encouraging your child to display these behaviours in school and demonstrate our school values is much-appreciated and will help your child prepare for high school and the wider world.
- **Independence-** We place great emphasis on children developing a growing sense of pride and organising themselves well in preparation for high school independence. It would be most beneficial for you to encourage your child to be organised and prepared for their day in school independently to help facilitate them becoming more confident and self-reliant.
- **Growth Mindset-** We actively encourage a positive mind-set in everything that your child participates in (even if it is a skill or subject that they don't particularly feel that confident with yet). The key word is yet!

Ways to Help your Child

- **Reading** –Children are expected to read at least 4 times a week and record this in their learning logs. Please help to promote your child's love of reading by encouraging them to read often, widely and by reading other books written by authors that they have previously enjoyed. If you are able to listen to your child read regularly at home, this would be especially beneficial on a Monday evening to further enhance their understanding of the vocabulary in the text that we explore in whole class reading on a Tuesday. If you are in a position to listen to your child read more than once a week, this will be highly beneficial in aiding their inference and comprehension skills as you can focus on asking questions about the events/information, characters and language of the story/text. In addition to the whole class extract, which your child will bring home on a Monday and Tuesday, they will also have a library book that they have chosen themselves based on their interests. Children will be encouraged to change their reading books independently when they are ready; however, adult support and guidance will be available for those that request it. Visit Active Learn for additional books - see the front page of the learning log for logins. If you require more books, please see one of the Year 6 team - we will refresh and add books regularly.
- **Times tables** - Children are expected to access Times Table Rockstars at home 3 times a week to focus on repetition and also quick recall in any order. Encourage your child to be fluent in their response to all questions up to 12 x 12.
- **Spelling** - Encourage your child to practice their year group's statutory words and zero tolerance words within their learning log as we will be checking these in your child's writing as the year goes on, as well as allowing for class time to teach and practice these too.
- **Writing-** We are impressed with the passion and creativity that has already been on display in the children's new Writing for Pleasure books. There is always great enthusiasm for this. Remember, if they write anything at home that they would like to share, please don't hesitate to send these in as we would love to celebrate their creativity.