



## Spring 1 Information for Parents Class 3 Miss Goodchild

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are beginning 2017 and as ever this term will be a busy one-especially for Y6! All Year 6 pupils were sent home before Christmas with a letter about booster sessions if your child hasn't passed it on it is important so please rummage in their bags.



### **Class Routines**

The children should remember that PE lessons are on Mondays and Fridays as before and that a **full PE kit** is necessary for these sessions. Punctuality is also going to continue to be essential, routines were working well before Christmas; however some children had begun arriving at 8.55 or after so they are missing learning-lessons begin at 8.50 sharp. On Thursday afternoons Mrs Dunn and Ms Lenney will continue to split the class and teach RE, French and PSHCE. Half of Monday afternoon will also continue to be for outdoor learning projects.

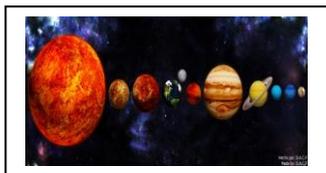
**Please send wellies/old trainers if you don't want their PE ones getting overly wet and muddy.** Mr Warriner will continue to coach Monday afternoons and assist with outdoor learning.

### **English:**

The English this half term will cover stories with flash backs, persuasive writing and a little free form poetry. The new curriculum is much more heavily weighted towards poetry and figurative language this is why we regularly cover some each all term if possible. This year there is no 'Read for my School' as Booktrust are no longer running it in the same way so we will continue to encourage children to read for pleasure, enjoy our new class story the children voted for and have a go at the new range of reading challenges for the million reasons to read. Please encourage children to read at home, if you want your children to understand the importance of reading the message needs to come from home as well.

### **Maths:**

We will begin with place value (including negative numbers), then move onto addition and subtraction (both whole numbers and decimals) and some shape and measures (perimeter, area, volume, co-ordinates and statistics). I will also be covering SMIRFS (1 or 2 mornings a week as maths starters and Arithmetic/Times-tables questions for the other mornings as starters. PLEASE, PLEASE encourage children to practice times-tables at home the Y5s in particular need to improve their times-table knowledge but there are still a handful of Y6s that don't have quick enough recall. Times-tables are essential to a wide range of mathematical areas and if children struggle with times tables they also struggle with the other maths areas; it is why they should know them all by the end of Y4.



Our other subject areas are:

- **Science**- Learning will focus on Earth and Space
- **History**- 'To infinity and beyond'. Learning will centre around the history of space travel and exploration including Tim Peake's recent achievements.
- **RE** -These lessons will be led by Mrs Dunn on Thursday afternoons and will focus on the unit 'Why are there over 50 mosques in Yorkshire?'
- **PSHCE** - this half term we will be moving onto the Youth trust Awards for Y6 and New Beginnings for Y5.
- **Music** -Orchestra and Holst's 'Planets' compositions as well as listening to Star Wars and Star Trek theme tunes to inspire children's own 'universe' theme tunes.
- **PE** -Netball on Mondays with our Sports Coach (**outdoor kit will still be needed**) and dance on Fridays. All of Year 5/6 will also be taking part in an indoor athletics afternoon on the 13<sup>th</sup> January, please see separate letter.
- **DT**-We will be linking our DT to our Science learning and children will be making moon buggies that move-this will be a longer term project as they will be focussing on the design and frame this half term and then the actual circuit mechanism after half term to link with our electricity theme in science.
- **Computing** - ICT will continue to be used extensively in year 5/6 to aid our learning in many subjects but ch'n will also have an hour's dedicated computing time Tuesday afternoons. This half term learning will cover: Simulations and we will look at various Space simulations as well as use 'Alice' to create a space simulation story of our own.
- **French** - we will continue to progress through aspects of the French language, following the NYCC coverage, this half term we will study Les animaux with Y6 and Cher Zoo with Y5.

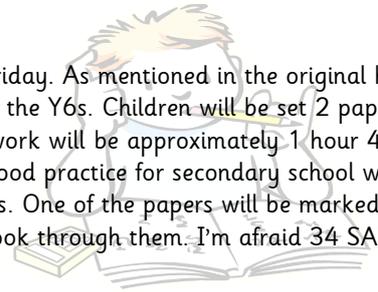


### Communication

I am still happy to speak to parents before school; if you wish to speak to me please do so between 8.40-8.50. Otherwise I always see the children out at the end of the day and you can grab me then. **Children also need to remember to bring a water bottle to school daily as well as their link books, water bottles were in thin supply last half term; Monday afternoons are full on with PE followed by outdoor learning, children need a drink.**

### Home learning

Home Learning will continue to be set on Monday and collected in on the following Friday. As mentioned in the original homework letter sent out in September the Spring Term is the main booster sessions for SATs for the Y6s. Children will be set 2 papers each week, a maths paper and either a reading or grammar paper (I alternate). The homework will be approximately 1 hour 45 mins so children will not be able to leave it to the Thursday night or homework club. This is good practice for secondary school where they will get about an hour each evening so I encourage parents to support school with this. One of the papers will be marked in school by the children each week (most likely maths) and then I will add comments when I look through them. I'm afraid 34 SATs papers to mark every Friday is too much for me!



*Thank you for your support, it is appreciated.*

Miss Goodchild

sowing seeds ~ bearing fruit ~ harvesting potential