



## Ipplepen Primary School - Welcome Year 6

September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing Summer holiday and we would like to welcome you to the Autumn term in Year 6! We have been delighted with the start that the Year 6 children have made, demonstrating a very hard working and mature attitude.

We appreciate that this has been a very challenging couple of years as a result of the Pandemic and that there has been much new information to take on board. As we find ourselves looking at a slightly different school year due to the easing of Covid restrictions, we would just like to clarify a few areas as follows...

- All children now need to arrive at school in time for a whole school start at 08.50am. The whole school will finish the day at 3.20pm. Class 6 need to enter and exit the school building via their outside fire door. Thankyou to those of you who have provided written or verbal clarification regarding going home arrangements for your child-Parental permission is now required for those children walking home or walking to the bottom or main gate to meet parents/carers. If you are collecting your child in person, please wait on the main playground, near to Class 6, where we can see you to safely hand your child over at the end of the school day.
- Please ensure that you always contact the school office in the event of a change of drop off/going home arrangements, absence or to book places for Breakfast and afterschool club.
- With local Covid cases remaining high, we wish to reassure you that we have worked hard to ensure that the children will continue to have a safe, happy and relaxed day in school. We will still be maintaining high standards of hygiene, including the sanitizing of hands on entry and exit to class as well as regular handwashing throughout the day. We will continue to remind children about handwashing, the use of tissues if they cough or sneeze and the need to promptly inform an adult should they feel unwell. We ask for your continued support in following the government advice and procedures in the event of your child being unwell.

### Year 6 Staffing:

- Monday-Wednesday and class teacher with main responsibility- Mrs E Hancox
- Thursday and Friday-class teacher-Miss A Boyne
- Additional Teacher- Mrs L Brewer will teach additional Maths groups on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon each week.
- Higher Level Learning Support Assistants-
  - 1) Mrs L Kerr- In class for two mornings each week.
  - 2) Miss Bradford will teach the class on a Wednesday afternoon to cover Mrs Hancox's PPA and Management time.

### Year 6 Curriculum:

As you know, Mrs Hancox will teach the class from Monday to Wednesday and Miss Boyne will teach the class on Thursday and Fridays. We have very carefully created our timetable to ensure that your child will receive the very highest quality of teaching this year as well as to ensure continuity across subjects. Please see a copy of our weekly timetable attached.

Please see the attached Curriculum Overview which sets out our units of work until Half term. A copy of our Long-Term Planning may also be viewed on our School Website.

Over the next few weeks we will also be adding to our class blog on a weekly basis so as you may keep up to date with the activities that we are involved in. This can be accessed via our school website. Click on the link for 'pupils' and then select 'Year 6: Sycamore Class.' We hope you enjoy this ongoing record of our learning and exciting projects.

### PE:

Children will need to continue to come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday and Friday each week. **For this Half term only, children will need to ensure that they are wearing their swimming clothes underneath their uniform on a Monday. Please remember to provide them with a towel and goggles. Swimming will take place in the mornings and so children will not be wearing their kit for a long period prior to swimming.**

### Reading Books and Homework:

Over the next week, all children within school, will complete a new 'Stars Reading Assessment' as part of our Accelerated Reader Scheme. Once we have updated outcomes from this, children will be allocated a revised 'AR Range' and be given a

book. Reading is very important in Year 6. All children will be required to read as often as possible and record the outcomes from this in their Reading Diaries. Children must record at least 3 entries per week in their Reading Diary. This is part of our homework policy. All Reading Diaries must be submitted on a Wednesday for checking. Children are more than welcome to read their own books from home too and record the outcomes of these. Expectations of what is expected inside the reading diary, are made clear on the inside front cover of the diary. We have also attached a list of Recommended Books For Year 6 to read should this be of help this year.

The children will be set homework (in line with our school policy) on a weekly basis as follows...

Teacher	Task Set	Day Set	Due In
Mrs Hancox	1) Reading (At least 10 minutes per evening)	Read as much as possible- minimum of three entries per week in Record Book.	Record Books will be checked every Wednesday and must be in school on this day.
Mrs Hancox	2) English/Foundation Topics- (Varied each week)	Monday Minimum Time to be spent on it: 40 mins	Due in the following Monday. Instructions/Due Dates always provided.
Miss Boyne	1) TT Rock stars (At least 5 minutes per evening)	Ensure that child has accessed TT Rock stars at least 3 times per week.	Miss Boyne will check every Thursday.
Miss Boyne	2) Maths	Thursday	Due in the following Thursday. Instructions/Due dates always provided.

Year 6 is a very important year for the children and we very much value your support in ensuring that the children complete their homework as well as having

high expectations for themselves and their behaviour. We also work incredibly closely with our Secondary Feeder Schools and are always mindful about the need to also ensure that our Year 6 children are 'Secondary Ready' by the end of the year. To this end, we do issue Lunch Time Detentions to those children who fail to produce homework or bring completed Reading Diaries, as many Secondary Schools also follow this procedure. Please let us know if you ever need clarification regarding homework.

### Spelling

This is a very important part of the Year 6 Curriculum. We use a very structured spelling programme and provide precision teaching for those who may find spelling a challenge. To this end, we will not be testing children on a weekly basis on sets of words sent home. We instead, attach the lists of words from years 3-6 which the children are required to know by the end of year 6. While we will cover these words and spelling patterns across the year, you are also most welcome to test your children on a small selection of these words each week. Additional consolidation at home will always be of benefit.

### Assessments:

Over the next few weeks, the children will undertake some baseline SAT's assessments. These are important in helping us to build a picture of which children would benefit from extra support or challenge sessions so as to fully prepare them for the end of unit SAT's (Statutory Assessment Tests) and the transition into Secondary School. **As it stands, Key Stage 2 SAT's will take place between Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022.** While much could change in this current climate, we would greatly appreciate it if you could ensure that your child attends school every day of that week.

### Additional Support/Booster Lessons.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs. Lara Brewer to the Year 6 team this year. She will teach additional Maths Groups on a Tuesday and a Wednesday afternoon each week. All children will have access to this and will either be extended if their Maths is already a strength, or supported if they need help with their confidence or the securing of key concepts. This does mean that the children will miss some of their afternoon lessons each week but hope that you will agree, that your child is very lucky to have access to this wonderful opportunity. Mrs. Brewer will also vary the timetabling of groups each week to ensure that the children do not miss the same subjects. Please note, that no child will ever miss a Maths, English or Reading lesson-These lessons offer additional Maths input.

We appreciate that many of you may have several questions now that your child is in this last year of Primary. Included below are frequent topics that parents ask questions about in this first term and our suggested guidance. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you still require further clarification or support with any area...

1. Read with your child. Discuss the meaning of the text. Talk about why the character has acted in a particular way. Do they like the book? Why or why not? Talk about what you are reading as well (if appropriate).
2. Ensure that your child has a good grasp of grammar. At the very least, they will need to be able to consistently identify and cite examples of the subject, object and verb within a sentence, an adjective, adverb, and noun.
3. Do they know a wide range of punctuation and can they use this successfully across all writing?
4. Ensure that your child is familiar with all of the spellings and spelling patterns on the year 3-6 spelling list.
5. To develop speaking and listening skills, encourage your child to explain things to you as clearly as possible. Question their explanation. If necessary give them a few minutes to mentally prepare. This could also apply to skills of persuasion or instructions. E.g. only let your child watch that special TV program if they can successfully persuade you using good persuasive language and reasoning in the time limit set!
6. Keep practising times tables at any available time - in the queue at the supermarket, in a traffic jam etc. Also practise division facts from the times tables e.g.  $2 \times 5 = 10$  so  $10 \div 2 = 5$ , then move onto decimal facts e.g.  $0.2 \times 7 = 1.4$ . Ensure that they are using the 'TT Rock stars' x table APP as part of their weekly homework.
7. Practise using maths in real-life situations e.g. reading timetables, money (how much change will you get?), telling the time with analogue as well as digital clocks, converting from 12 hour to 24-hour time and working out the duration of events.
8. Encourage your child to become more independent - they will need to be next year. Help them to develop strategies for making sure they have everything they need at school rather than packing their bag for them!
9. Monitor their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
10. Happiness is paramount to success! List 1-9 are suggestions. Everyone is unique and works at different levels, so do as much or as little from the list!

Finally,

[www.bbc.co.uk/revisewise](http://www.bbc.co.uk/revisewise) has very useful activities and information for revising Maths and English.

**Parental Consent to View DVDS:**

In order to enhance our Guided Reading Units this term, it would be brilliant if we could show the children the films 'Holes' and 'Wonder'. Both of these have a PG rating as they deal with sensitive subject matters which we will also be discussing as part of our English units. Please may you provide your consent for us to show these DVDs to your child this term (Do ask if you wish to know more about the PG ratings/content)

Finally, may we just flag up the importance of Internet/Computer safety as the children will be using ICT a great deal in their research this year. If you wish to find out more about this, these websites may be useful: <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> or <http://ceop.police.uk/>. May we also ask for your support in being continually aware of the material that your child is accessing via Computers, Tablets, Phones etc as well as monitoring their activity on any social media groups.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to an exciting year in Class 6.

Kind Regards,

Mrs E Hancox and Miss A Boyne (Year 6 Class teachers)

.....  
Child's Name:..... Class 6

- I do/do not give my consent for my child to view the films 'Holes' and 'Wonder' rated PG.

Signed:

September 2021