



Ipplepen Primary School & Saplings Pre-School

Biltor Road Ipplepen Newton Abbot TQ12 5QL

Heads of School: Mr M.West and Mrs S.Wiseman

T: 01803 812226 **E:** admin@ipplepen-primary.devon.sch.uk

Sycamore Class Year 6 Parent Letter Autumn Term

September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

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

As the new year begins I 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. Thank you 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.

Year 6 Curriculum:

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 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.





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PE:

Children will need to continue to come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday. **For this Half term only, Year 6 will be swimming. 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.** After half term children will need to come in their PE kit on a Tuesday and Friday.

Reading Books and Homework:

Over the next week, all children within school, will complete a new 'Star 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. I 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...

Task Set	Day Set	Due In	Activity
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.	Read and fill in reading record.
2) English	Thursday	Due in the following Wednesday. Instructions/Due Dates always provided.	Sheet will be sent home to complete.
3) TT Rock stars (At least 5 minutes per evening)	Ensure that child has accessed TT Rock stars at least 3 times per week.	I will check every Thursday.	Complete times table practise on TT Rockstar.
4) Maths	Thursday	Due in the following Wednesday.	Activities will be set on MyMaths.





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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.

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 SATs 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 SATs will take place between Monday 8th May to Thursday 11th May 2023.** 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 Monday and a Tuesday 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 we 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.

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).





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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 programme if they can successfully convince 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' 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 has very useful activities and information for revising Maths and English.

Mobile phones

We understand that some children have a mobile phone with them to enable them to communicate on their journeys to and from school. We would appreciate your help in reminding your child to hand this in to the teacher on arrival at school, to be stored safely and they will be returned to them at the end of the school day. Please ensure we have received a signed form for this too.

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

Kind Regards,

Miss A Boyne and Miss E Bradford

