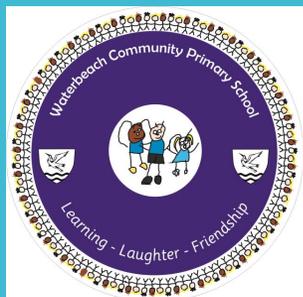


Welcome to Year 6

What is the same and what will be different?





Communication

- We aim to have open communication channels to keep you informed about everything that is going on in school and to give easy access to speak to us if needed.
- Ways we can communicate:
- **School/team letters** – where possible we would like to send all letters via email. There will be occasional letters that are sent out as paper copies.
- **Weekly learning sharing** – every Friday an email is sent out to give you an overview of what the children will be learning about the following week and how you can help your child, this may also have important notices on.
- **Website** – we hope the website is a good reference source, if there are things that you would like to see included please let us know.
- **Email** – you can send emails to your child’s class teacher or team leader. The protocol is that teachers will respond within 3 working days. If you need a more urgent response then you can leave a message with the school office or send a note to your child’s class teacher.
- Mr Smith– dsmith@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- Mrs Norman – enorman@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- **Appointments** – if you would like to arrange a meeting with your child’s class teacher please contact them via email, school office or letter to arrange a suitable time.



Behaviour

- Our standards of behaviour are consistent throughout the school.
- The difference in Year 6 is that they are at the top of the school and as such they naturally become role models for the younger children. We expect children in Year 6 to set a good example by following our Golden Rules consistently:
- We Look After Property, We Try Our Best, We Are Kind and Helpful, We Listen, We Are Honest, We Are Gentle.



Year 6 Curriculum

- The curriculum overview is available on the school website. Please look out for detailed curriculum captures which will be uploaded in the Autumn term.
- The learning expectations for Maths and English are available on the school website under Learning/Curriculum/Learning expectations or through the Year 6 page.
- During the Autumn Term we hope there will be parent consultation evenings to give you more ideas of how you can support your child in their learning. Obviously, this is subject to COVID restrictions being lifted.

Home Learning



Maths

- Mathletics – children will use the same log on to use this online program, where children can complete various maths activities every week and earn certificates. The home learning set through Mathletics will reflect the learning in class that week.
- Times tables rock stars – children can continue to use this programme to support their learning of Times Tables

Spelling

- Children will continue to use Spelling Shed as before, with appropriate spelling lists for the class being set by the teaching team each week.

Topic

- They will also be asked to complete a topic based homework. We usually use a 'Teach for 2 minutes' style homework, where the children design their homework around teaching the rest of the class something about what they have learnt at home.
- This should take the children longer to work on and they need to think about how would be the best way to present and teach their findings to the rest of the class – power point, model, diagram/picture etc . We only expect them to do one each half term (minimum – they can do more if they wish)



Reading and Spelling

Reading

- As they have been used to in Year 5, the children will choose a book from the school library according to their Accelerated Reader band. We encourage the children to bring this book home so that they continue to have 4 quality reading sessions a week between home and school. We encourage you as parents to monitor this, but we like to give the children in Year 6 more independence so they are able to sign their Home School book themselves.

Spelling

- The children will bring home a list of spelling words from the National Curriculum that they will be expected to learn. The list of words from the Year 5/6 Curriculum contains a lot of difficult words (difficult to spell and understand!).
- It is expected that they will know how to spell all these words by the end of Year 6, and they will be tested through a Spelling Test as part of their Year 6 SATs.



Responsibility

- We have a greater expectation of the children taking responsibility for their own property. They will be given their own pencil case with all the equipment they will need for lessons. This will be labelled with their name. It is the child's responsibility to look after their pencil case. We do not allow pens/pencil/rubbers etc from home as they will not be needed and they can cause problems within the class.
- This also applies for their own property, such as coats, bags, lunch boxes. Each child will have a named peg and a labelled trolley for their coats and lunch boxes etc.
- It is their responsibility to look after their things.
- It is the children's responsibility to make sure that home learning is collected and completed by the set time. They will be expected to take home letters and bring back replies from home. Teachers and TAs will not go through their bags to find home learning or reply slips.
- **ALL POSSESSIONS SHOULD BE NAMED.** Due to the issues we have with mountains of lost property, any unlabelled clothes that we find will be labelled with a permanent marker on the washing label.



Learning Partners

- This approach to learning will be continued to be used in Year 6 as it has been seen to extend and improve children's ability in 'talk for learning'.
- Talking and listening to different members of class widens the children's social network, helps the children improve on polite and productive conversation. It also extends children's vocabulary - whether they are learning from or explaining their ideas to other children.



Start and End of the Day Arrangements

- Children in Year 6 are trusted to walk home from school independently - unless parents do not want them to do this.
- They will arrive and be dismissed from the double-doors at the end of the new building, which face the library. (Please note, this may be subject to change, due to COVID regulations in September).



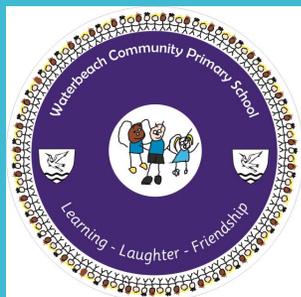
Meetings with Teachers

- As in year 5, parents are asked not to seek unplanned meetings with the teachers at the start or end of the day as it is a very busy period and the teachers will be very busy welcoming/dismissing the children.
- If you need to tell the class teacher something or ask a quick question, we recommend that you begin by emailing them (emails for class teachers are always on the Team Letter). You can also use the email system to arrange meetings with teachers if you would prefer. Teachers are expected to reply within 3 working days, but they will very often reply more than this. However, please do not expect replies in the evenings, at weekends or during school holidays.
- If you have a concern that you feel needs to be escalated above the class teacher, please contact the Team Leader (Mr Smith) in the first instance and he can refer you to Mrs Ogilvie or Miss Green if he feels it is necessary.



Physical Education

- Because of COVID regulations, pupils are currently asked to come into school already in their PE kits on the day of their PE slots. However, this may change come September. Further information will be presented to you nearer the time.
- As your child grows out of their current P.E. top, please get them a t-shirt in the correct colour for their House team. These are available from the school for just £4 with the school logo on. Alternatively, you can buy them a plain coloured t-shirt without a school logo (no other logos, prints or patterns, please!)
- No jewellery should be worn during Physical Education lessons including swimming. It is also not safe to cover earrings / studs / sleepers with tape. If children wear earrings to school they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons. If your child is unable to do so, earrings should be removed before coming to school. We advise that if you are going to allow your child to have their ears pierced, that this is done at the start of the summer holidays so that their PE entitlement is not compromised.



Summer Holidays

- Naturally we do not expect the children to be working throughout their summer holidays, however, its is very important that they do not completely leave their studies behind.
- Regular reading and maths work (particularly thoroughly knowing their tables) would be expected so that the children can start September in the best possible position to continue their learning.
- Children will also be asked to complete an “All About Me” book over the summer that they can give to their new teacher on the first day of the Autumn term.



The Year 6 Team

- Mr Smith – Yr 6 Pandas Class Teacher and Year 5/6 Team Leader

A video welcome from Mr Smith: https://youtu.be/-98_Cxqxhkw

- Mrs Norman – Yr 6 Tree Kangaroos Class Teacher

A video welcome from Mrs Norman: <https://youtu.be/ehfVrt4yvYE>