



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Year 6: Half Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn 1, September 2020

Dear Parents,

As already communicated via our class email system -welcome back to the start of a new academic year and welcome to Year 6!

Year 6 is a challenging year and we work hard to ensure that all the children have the best opportunity possible to achieve their full potential. At the same time, we try our best to have fun along the way and provide all the children with some lovely lasting memories. As your child embarks on their final year at primary school I would like to take this opportunity to wish them a successful and positive year ahead.

As usual, these parent letters (written every half term and published on our school website) provide you with a brief outline of the curriculum that has been planned. As we return to school our key priority is the well-being of the children. We have had to adapt our curriculum in places to meet the needs of the children after a break from school and also to ensure we are following procedures the school has put in place to keep everyone safe. Co-Vid 19 will continue to restrict our 'normal' school life and if you are interested in looking at how the school is managing this you should read our return to school risk assessment located on our school website here:

<http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/coronavirus-information/>

The Year 6 Team

The Year 6 team this year is:

Mrs Amanda Bishop (Class Teacher)

Miss Claire Overton (Teaching Assistant)

Below is an outline of the Year 6 curriculum for this half term:

English Our **Power of Reading** text this half term will be the children's novel *The Last Wild* by Piers Torday. This text will allow the class the chance to explore, talk and write about the emotions of the story and its characters as the mystery unfolds. Punctuation and Grammar will focus on the different word classes and learning where, when and how to use them correctly. Sentence level work will focus on the formation of complex sentences and the use of more sophisticated punctuation. Handwriting will also be a key focus this half term and children are expected to present every piece of work neatly and carefully. For the start of the autumn term all children will be writing in pencil and then will move on to black ink pen as the year progresses.

Maths **Unit 1 - Place value within 10,000,000** - numbers to 10,000,000, number line to 10,000,000, comparing and ordering numbers to 10,000,000, rounding numbers and negative numbers
Unit 2 - Four operations (1) - problem solving involving written methods of addition and subtraction, multiplying and dividing numbers up to 4 digits by a 1- digit number/2-digit number

Unit 3 - Four operations (2) - common factors, common multiples, recognising prime numbers up to 100, squares and cubes, orders of operations, brackets, mental calculations and reasoning from known facts

Topic (Science & History)	Our topic this half term is called Full Power! This topic is all about electricity and the class will learn about electricity and how to make different kinds of electrical circuits. The children will investigate ways in which to vary the power of different components within a circuit and how to draw simple circuits using conventional symbols for communication. We will also investigate the basic principles of renewable and sustainable energy. History this term will link directly with our Topic in that the children will be learning about the discovery of electricity and why it is one of the most important discoveries ever made. We will look closely at the electricity inventions timeline and the scientists involved in shaping the modern world.
R.E.	In RE we will be exploring the following: How Does Worship and Liturgy Enable a Christian to Grow and Express Their Faith? What This Unit Teaches: ✦ What is worship? ✦ What is liturgy? ✦ How is prayer at the heart of worship? ✦ How does music enhance Christian worship? ✦ Is Christian worship the same all around the world? ✦ Planning a liturgy for Collective Worship.
Computing	The children will consider issues relating to e-Safety, in particular they will be thinking about the SMART rules.
P.S.H.E.	The class will begin with a programme of lessons which will focus on the following: respecting personal space; respect for hygiene; belonging and feeling safe at school; reconnecting with friends; the coronavirus explained; managing worries, fears and anxieties; being positive and looking forward to learning; gratitude and appreciation; loss and bereavement. We have already designed our Class Charter with a focus on how to keep ourselves safe and healthy during this time as well as including all the usual expectations for a happy classroom. We then move on to our new topic - Being Me in My World - This unit helps to make children feel welcome and valued and to understand their own wants and needs which can then be compared to children in different communities. The children learn to appreciate how their actions can affect others and that we all function best when achieving as a whole group.
French	Specialist teaching of French will take place every Wednesday afternoon. We warmly welcome Claudine Stanton-Jones (Mme Claudine to the children!) to the school who will be conducting these sessions. Bonjour et bienvenue!
Art & Design	Mrs Adams will provide specialist art teaching within the Y6 classroom on Tuesdays.
Music	Mrs Le Prevost will provide specialist teaching of Music lessons - again in the Year 6 classroom.
P.E.	Year 6 will be participating in PE lessons every Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon led by our specialist PE coach, Ms Wolkowska.

CHILDREN ARE ASKED TO COME INTO SCHOOL IN PE KIT ON THESE DAYS. AS THE WEATHER GETS COOLER PLEASE ENSURE SCHOOL TRACKSUITS ARE WORN..

Year 6 Wandsworth Test

Exceptionally for 2020, the Wandsworth Year 6 admissions test will be held in December 2020 rather than in September for children starting secondary school in 2021.

As well as being a way of assessing the ability of all year 6 pupils, the test has been designed to provide Wandsworth secondary schools with the information they need before offering places

If your child has an EHCP, they do not have to take the test.

There will be no need to register for the test in advance of making an application. As St. Mary's is a state primary school in Wandsworth your child will take the test at school on **3rd December 2020**. Results will be sent to parents when we receive them.

Secondary Transfer

Miss Payne sent you detailed information regarding Secondary Transfer at the end of last term. Please contact me if you have any further questions or need support with this process. We continue to send home (via Parentmail) any relevant information sent to us by Secondary Schools - please keep an eye out for this in your inbox!

A reminder that Wandsworth are no longer distributing hard copies of the 'Choose a Wandsworth Secondary School' brochure to schools for the pupils in Year 6 classes. The brochure and accompanying application forms are all available to download and view on the following website www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions. Further information has been sent to you via Parentmail.

If you are applying to schools that require references, please could you let me know as soon as possible so I am prepared for when the request is made to the school.

School Journey Residential Trip

Unfortunately, the planned Year 6 school journey trip to Sayers Croft in November is cancelled due to the pandemic. The Department of Education continue to 'advise against domestic (UK) overnight educational visits.'

Home Learning

In Year 6 all children will be given two sets of main home learning to complete each week. As the year progresses and the children settle I will be adding to this.

We advise our children to spend no more than 40 minutes on each piece of main home learning and to let us know whether they found it too complicated or too easy at the end of the assignment. We expect all of our Year 6 children to complete their home learning independently but it would be beneficial for them to have it checked over for accurate punctuation, accurate calculations and neatness before it is handed in. Please comment if you have had to help significantly.

Home learning is structured as followed:

Friday:

Maths Homework: Children to complete assigned online tasks on Mathletics. Login details will be sent home via your child prior to the start of this home learning being set.

English homework: Children should complete the guided reading/writing task that will be emailed to you. Please email the completed task to the class email (class2014a@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk) either by scanning or taking a photograph.

In addition to the main home learning Year 6 pupils will also be expected to regularly practice:

- 1) Spellings - need to be learnt weekly, set every Monday for a test on Friday.
- 2) Times Tables - need to be rehearsed regularly for a test on Friday. 100 Club sheets have been sent to parents to use at home to aid fluency and speed!
- 4) Reading - children should be reading daily. Parents have been sent home information regarding Top 100 books to read before leaving Primary school!

Communication

If you have any queries, questions or concerns relating to your child, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. As always the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT - which as you now know has moved to an electronic e-mail system! The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it. The address is:

class2014a@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk

It has been a challenging year so far for us all, but now is the time to work together and look forward to what I am sure will be a successful academic year for the class.

I am delighted to be teaching Year 6 and look forward to a very busy and productive half term ahead.

Keep in the loop with social media

The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Wishing you and your families well.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Bishop

Year Six Class Teacher/Deputy Head