

St Fidelis Catholic Primary School

with Nursery Unit



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Year 6 Woodpeckers

January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As we start the spring academic term, we thought it would be useful to revisit some daily routines and expectations that are in place in Year 6. Although we try to keep school as structured and consistent as possible, there will be occasions when the timings of some aspects detailed below may change, for reasons that are beyond the control of the teachers.

Woodpeckers' class teacher is Mr McNicholl. Over the course of the year, the children will also be taught by Miss Bull (PE), Mr Robinson (Music), Mrs Harris (Art) and Mrs Thornton-Hayes (Liturgical Dance).

Independent Learners

In Year 6, children are expected to look after their book bags and belongings. This will prepare them for secondary school. This includes:

- Changing reading books when finished.
- Handing in and taking home dinner money, letters and work.
- Water and fruit can be brought from home, bottles should be clear and labelled and can be refilled by the children during breaks.
- Watches and pencil cases may be brought to school. The children are responsible for these items so please make sure that these are sturdy and do not contain precious items.
- Making sure that no jewellery (including bracelets), earrings, studs or nail polish is worn. Please check that these are removed before school.
- Keeping track of bags, clothing and belongings throughout the day, especially PE kits and jumpers. **All children should have their uniform and PE kit clearly labelled.**
- Carrying out a Year 6 job at either lunch times or before school, to a high standard.

Homework

The children have responsibility for their own homework in Year 6. They have three booklets to work on – Maths, Grammar and Comprehension. The children also have the answer booklets for these booklets and are expected to mark their own homework and make any corrections. Children should aim to complete two pages of each booklet per week.

The Key Stage Two expectation is for children to spend at least 30 minutes on RM Easimaths a week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading Diary	Reading Diary	Reading Diary	Reading Diary	Reading Diary
RM Easimaths	RM Easimaths	RM Easimaths	RM Easimaths	RM Easimaths

Times Tables

In maths we are really focusing on rapid recall of times tables, as we know that this is essential to good progress in maths. Daily practice at home with times tables will be of great benefit to our child's development as the children will be expected to use this knowledge in different contexts. Our children should already know their times tables up to x12 and we will be continuing to build on the speed of recall for these. Our children should also be practising rapid recall of the subsequent division facts and related times tables facts, e.g $8 \times 7 = 56$ so $80 \times 7 = 560$.



Statutory National Curriculum Spellings

These should be practised regularly as they will be tested during the year.

Year 6 Autumn 1 st half	Year 6 Autumn 2 nd half	Year 6 Spring 1 st half	Year 6 Spring 2 nd half	Year 6 Summer 1 st half Revision (yr 5)
individual interfere interrupt language leisure lightning marvellous mischievous muscle necessary	recommend relevant restaurant signature sincere immediately soldier stomach sufficient suggest twelfth variety vegetable vehicle yacht	neighbour nuisance appreciate accommodate opportunity parliament persuade physical prejudice privilege profession programme pronunciation queue recognise	symbol system temperature thorough committee environment government communicate accommodate embarrass rhyme rhythm sacrifice secretary shoulder	appreciate conscious competition definite convenience desperate disastrous especially equipment foreign familiar frequently government guarantee immediate

Reading Diaries

Children are to read every night, with a minimum of five entries into their reading diary each week. Our diaries are checked weekly. Children are responsible for filling this in by themselves, but we ask that parents join their children when reading where possible. You should sign your child's diary once a week. Included below is an example of a well-completed Year 6 reading diary:

Reading Record	
Date, book and the page you read to	Comments Give a score out of 10 to show how much you enjoyed your reading
7.9 Pork diamonds	Good, read with expression. / sign: Attall * AWA the books 9/10
Dork diaries once upon a dork 07/09/2015	When Nikki and her friend's go to P.E. class they are so good at the volleyball game although they weren't even doing anything and when they realised that they were still in the game they started playing really well. / Sign: 
Dork diaries once upon a dork 08/09/2015	The game didn't really go as planned for Nikki because Mackenzie hit her right in the face with a ball and that caused lots of damage. 10/10
	Nikki started dreaming that she was falling in a deep dark hole and everything was very dark when Nikki smiled 

Children who do not have five entries in their reading diary will read in class during play time.

Broad and Balanced Curriculum

On the next page please find a copy of our curriculum map showing the main topics we will be covering. As always your support of all that our child does is of enormous value to them and we will be most grateful for your continued support. Parent teacher meetings are scheduled to take place on the afternoons of the 21st and 22nd March between 3:30 and 7:00pm. Details of how to book an appointment will be sent out later in the half term.

With regards,
Mr McNicholl



<p>Religion</p> <p>As we approach Easter, we will be looking at the importance of the story of the Passover as well as the significance of the last supper and Jesus' death. We will be linking each of these to the role mass plays in our faith and the importance of practising our faith regularly.</p>	<p>English</p> <p>In English, children will be reading the novel 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo. Fiction and non-fiction work, based on the story and the First World War, will be the focus of our writing. Grammar now holds a high proportion of our English curriculum which is supported by the homework task. We will also be analysing various different War poems which will link into our novel and history work. In the run-up to SATS, children will complete practice papers in reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar, in preparation for these important exams.</p>
<p>Maths</p> <p>In Maths we will continue to address a range of topics. These areas will include mental maths, place value, number problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, percentages and decimals, ratio and proportion, shape and space, as well as data handling. We will be recapping and using RUCSAC (read, understand, choose, solve, answer and check) within our work. After learning a range of maths skills we will be applying these to rich tasks which include solving open ended investigations.</p> <p>In preparation for our forthcoming exams, we will be using test papers to focus our learning and develop our skills in answering examination questions.</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>In Science, we will be studying how light travels and how objects can be seen. We will look at a model of the eye and explain the job of each part of the eye. Through investigation, we will find out the materials that are transparent or opaque and how these are useful. Spring two we will be studying Electricity. We will explore the voltage of a circuit, investigating additional components to a circuit and how these are used in our everyday lives.</p>
<p>ICT</p> <p>The focus for ICT will be for children to create and develop their own phone app. While studying this topic children will be reinforcing the need to keep safe when using new technologies and always be aware who they are communicating with.</p>	<p>Music</p> <p>We will be focusing on film music through composing a sound track for a video clip and then performing on the steel pans and tuned/un-tuned percussion instruments. The key focus will be on developing the children's ability to compose and perform with a greater awareness of others and the need to achieve an overall effect, and to be able to make subtle changes to their own part within a group performance.</p>
<p>Geography</p> <p>By the end of our focus on Kenya, children will be able to understand where Kenya is and be able to locate it on a map. Children will be analysing tourism in Kenya and the impact of Safari on Kenyan tourism as well as looking at what is important in Kenyan culture. Children will also be comparing life in Kenya with their own lives here in England.</p>	<p>PE</p> <p>In the spring term Year 6 will be continuing invasion games for their outdoor lessons. The first of these will be basketball and the second tag rugby. During these lessons the children will learn the skills to play these games as well as the impact of teamwork. Their indoor lessons will be based on aesthetic performances in gymnastics and dance. Year 6 will then become the first year group to focus on Badminton to develop their racket skills and progress their hand-eye co-ordination.</p>
<p>History</p> <p>Children will be focusing on the topic of World War one through our novel 'War Horse'. We will also be looking at some war poetry from this era. Children will be learning about where the war was fought, how the war was fought and who was involved.</p>	