

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer / Guardians,

Welcome back and welcome to Year 6!

We hope that you and your family have had a wonderful summer and are ready for the new academic year. Year 6 is a very busy and important year. Pupils are now in their final year at Blakehill and will soon begin the process of selecting which secondary school they wish to attend. Your child will bring home an information leaflet for parents for applying to secondary schools in Bradford (this includes the dates for school open evenings). Leeds schools' information is available at:

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school>

Pupils also have their end of Key Stage 2 SAT tests which take place in May. Throughout this year, we ask for your continued support. The October parent workshop will focus on the skills required to support your child in their SATs. If you do have any questions, worries or queries, please feel free to speak to a member of the Year 6 team.

Curriculum

Subject	Unit
Mathematics	Place Value Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division Fractions Geometry - Position and Direction
English	Narrative Suspense narrative Flashback stories Writing from a different point of view Non fiction Journalistic writing formal/informal writing balanced / biased arguments
Science	Classifying living things Electricity
History	Ancient civilisation study: The Maya
Music	Ukulele tuition How does music bring us together? How does music connect us with the past?
Computing	Communication and Collaboration
Art	Drawing (shadow and reflection) - Artist focus: New York architects (Shreve, Lamb & Harmon) Painting (watercolour) - Artist focus: Justin Margitich & Claire Cowie

DT	Fairground rides (structures and mechanisms)
PSHE	Me and my relationships Growing and changing Online pressures
MFL	Spanish tuition
RE	How do Sikhs show commitment? How does growing up bring responsibilities?
PE	Badminton Frisbee

Dates for your diary

There are a number of key dates already in place for Year 6, please ensure to keep a record of these. **We ask that no children are taken out of school during SAT's week.**

Friday 20th October 2023	Blackpool Visit
Tuesday 17th October 2023	Parent workshop
Friday 5th January 2024	6P class assembly
Friday 12th January 2024	6N class assembly
Wednesday 17th January 2024	Tropical World (provisional booking)
Thursday 7th March 2024	World Book Day
Monday 13th May 2024 - Friday 17th May 2024	SATs week
Monday 20th May 2024 - Wednesday 22nd May 2024	Year 6 Residential (York- Viking link)
Wednesday 3rd July 2024	Transition day (secondary school)
Tuesday 16th July 2024	Production for parents
Friday 12th July 2024	Year 6 Prom (provisional)
Friday 19th July 2024	Year 6 award ceremony

Attendance and punctuality

We would like to emphasise the importance of excellent attendance and hope that you and your child will make every effort to make sure that you are on time and ready for the school day. Pupils should be in the playground ready to line up at 8.45am, where they will be greeted by their teacher.

Mobile Phones

We understand that some pupils have mobile phones and that they use these as they walk to and from school on their own. We must stress that mobile phones should be turned off once your child has entered the school grounds. Mobile phones should then be given to a member of staff so that they can be securely put away during the school day and returned at the end of the day.

Homework

Homework will typically be set on a Friday, to be returned the completed by the following Wednesday for marking. This will be set on Google Classrooms. The homework provided is given to support and consolidate pupils' learning from that week or a previous week. It is used to check understanding of topics covered and helps us identify areas of learning that need further development. In the run up to SATs, we must stress that homework is important in preparing your child. If your child needs extra support with their homework, please contact a member of the Year 6 team via the school office.

Spellings

Spellings will be handed out to pupils on a Tuesday and tested the following Tuesday. These spellings will cover the Year 6 spelling curriculum. It is important that pupils are learning their spellings and we ask that you support



your child with this. Spelling is a big part of your child's SAT tests. 20 marks are dedicated to the spelling test within the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS) tests and children's spelling is also taken into account within the GPS paper. In addition to this, pupil's spelling is taken into account when the overall judgement is given for writing.

Home Reading

In Year 6, children are typically given daily opportunities to change their reading books and we expect them to be independent enough to identify when they need to do this.

It is essential that your child reads as frequently as possible to build their stamina for reading and we are looking for children to read **at least** three times a week at home - this should be recorded in their home reading record. Every time your child reads and records this in their reading diary. We understand that parents/carers live busy lives but any time you can spare to listen to your child really would be extremely beneficial.

BREAKING NEWS

A new reward system for home reading will follow soon!

PE

Indoor PE: this takes place on a **Tuesday** afternoon. It is important that children have the correct, named kit for this: a white or blue plain t-shirt; black or blue shorts (tracksuit bottoms are also permitted) and black pumps.

Outdoor PE: this takes place on a **Thursday** afternoon. It is important that children have the correct, named kit for this: a white or blue plain t-shirt; black or blue tracksuit bottoms; a plain black or blue sweatshirt and a pair of trainers.

Mr Brigg, our Sports Coach, will lead both PE sessions.

PE kits should be brought into school either in your child's daily school bag or in a named pump bag that can be left in their cloakroom.

Water Bottles

To enable your child to have a drink of water, we would encourage a named water bottle be brought into school. Try to ensure your child's bottle is of the non-spill variety. Bottles should be taken home daily to be cleaned.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform (named so that it can be easily returned if lost), including black school shoes. If your child does not have suitable black school shoes, they will be given black pumps to wear throughout the day inside. Children can wear trainers at play times and lunch times but these must be changed back to school shoes ready for returning to lessons. Pupils are also required to wear a school tie with a white shirt or polo shirt and children in Key Stage 2 should have a school cardigan or V-necked school jumper.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to any of us at the end of the school day.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 6 Team

Mr Nicklin, Mr. Poole, Mr Rhodes (Teaching Staff)

Teaching Assistants: Mrs. Bedell (6P), Miss Power (6N), Ms Head (across both classes)

