

Bottisham Community Primary School



Headteacher: Rachael Johnston

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Warm Welcome to Year 5/6

We hope that you have all enjoyed a relaxing and exciting summer break and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you into year 5/6.

Our topic this term is History based and we will be learning about the Victorians. We have organised a school visit to Stibbington later this term in which the children will experience a journey back in time to life in a Victorian school. More details to follow in a separate letter.

Structures and Routines

Our year 5/6 team consists of:

Mrs Sands in Sycamore Class,

Mrs Ociecko (Mon – Weds) Mrs Walker (Thurs – Fri) in Maple Class

Mrs McMahon (Mon – Weds) and Mrs Rayment (Thurs-Fri) in Willow Class. We have been busy preparing our classrooms ready to welcome all of our pupils back into school.

In Year 5/6 we will continue to open our classroom doors at 8.50am, and we expect children to be ready for registration by 9am. The school day finishes at 3.25pm. As the children develop their independence in Upper Key Stage 2, some begin to walk home with friends rather than be collected. It is helpful to know if your child is doing this. Otherwise, we will wait with children until they are collected. After 3.30pm children who have not been collected, or are not walking home independently, will wait at the school office.

We love keeping our classrooms as tidy and as clean as we can, so we expect all children to have **indoor shoes** (e.g. plimsolls, spare trainers) and suitable **outdoor shoes**. If your child is at school without a change of footwear, they will be reminded to play only on the hard surface for that day, so that grass and mud is not brought into the classroom.

We feel the return to school is always eased if children have a clear structure to their day. We would ask your assistance with this by keeping to mealtimes, bedtimes and regular reading routines. In school, we will provide children with both weekly and daily timetables, and establish regular routines which we will share and discuss with them. Children will need a **water bottle (in class)** at their desks at all times to maintain hydration and aid concentration. For breaktime, please provide your child with a **healthy snack**.

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Google Classroom

Google Classroom will continue to be a vital resource for staff, pupils and parents, as a way to set, complete and upload homework as well as share messages with you and learning in the classroom. Your child now has access to their new class page and teaching staff will regularly update this.

Homework will be set on a Thursday, and is expected to be 'handed in' by Tuesday morning. This may be on Google Classroom or printed out and given in to their class teacher in a homework book. During Tuesday lunchtime, a teacher will be available to assist children with their homework, if they have struggled to find time to do it at home. We expect children to be spending around half an hour on English and the same on maths. Obviously, some children might complete it quicker than this, but if your child has been focussed for this length of time and has not finished, then a note to the teacher on Google Classroom to explain why the work is unfinished is welcome and perfectly acceptable.

It is vitally important the home school journal (HSJ) and reading book are brought in each day. This allows your child to record important notices and all children will have age-appropriate spellings which will be written in the HSJ and put on GC on a Monday.

The children should also be **reading each day** at home and recording this in their home school journal. A HP will be awarded for recording what they have read.

PE Days, PE Kit and Changing Arrangements

Children should have all their school uniform named. It is extremely hard to reunite children with clothing when it is not named, and it generally gets sent to the lost property box. Full outdoor and an indoor PE kit should be available to the children in school on their specific PE days.

PE kit needs to consist of a white t-shirt (separate from their school T-shirt) and black/navy shorts for indoor PE and back/ navy jogging bottoms, black/ navy jumper and trainers for their outdoor PE session. All items for the children's PE kit are generic and widely available in all supermarket stores.



It is also important that the children with long hair have this tied up for their lessons and that they are not wearing any jewellery such as watches or earrings during PE either. The children should

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be able to remove earrings for themselves. Children will change in school for PE so please ensure your child's kit is available in school.

PE Days will be as follow:

- Sycamore Class: Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning
- Maple Class: Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning
- Willow Class: Wednesday and Friday morning

One lesson will be delivered by their class teacher and one by Mr Green, our specialist PE teacher.

Parent consultations week

This term, parent consultations will be held, in person, on the 27th and 29th September. Please pencil this week in your diary and keep an eye out for further communication from the office in order to book your desired slot.

Year 6 SATs

For this academic year, SATs are scheduled to take place the week beginning 8th May 2023. We will communicate with you dates for a parents' information event regarding these examinations, mock SATs and the format of tests that we will administer this year. We will of course also keep you up to date with any changes that may happen this year and we will work with you to ensure your child has the right arrangements in place to ensure they are given the best possible chance to perform their best.

Residentials

- Year 5 visit to Burwell House

Details will follow with regards to the rearranged visit for the Year 5 pupils from the 19th – 20th December 2022. It will be a lovely Christmas themed residential to end the term!

- Year 6 visit to Grafham Water

This has been organised for Weds 8th – Friday 10th March 2023. We had a fantastic visit last year and look forward to taking the current Year 6. Details will follow shortly.

We look forward to working with you and your child over the coming year.

Kind regards,

Mrs McMahon, Mrs Ociecko, Mrs Rayment, Mrs Sands and Mrs Walker

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