

Bottisham Community Primary School



Headteacher: Rachael Johnston

06.01.23

Year 5/6 Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed a restful Christmas break. A huge thank you for your kind gifts and cards at the end of term.

We are looking forward to another busy term ahead and we are delighted to welcome Miss Winkcup into Willow Class. Miss Winkcup is in the process of completing her school based initial teaching training.

Topic Overview

Our next topic is about 'Fair Trade'. This is a fantastic geography based topic which allows us to explore the world that we live in and the threats to our planet. Our English will also feed into this through stories, poetry and journalistic writing. We will also be mixing our teaching groups for English this term to allow us to focus on key areas to work on with particular pupils.

Please see our topic web for the curriculum coverage and vocabulary for this term. As always, if you have any links to this topic and can offer time to come in and speak to the children then please do get in touch.

Educational Visit

In our Science topic, we are learning about Evolution and Inheritance. We have arranged for the children to visit the Wellcome Genome Campus where we will be learning about 'Living Things and the Tree of Life.'

Willow Class will be visiting on Wednesday 29th March and Sycamore and Maple will visit on Thursday 30th March. More details will follow in a separate letter.

Bikeability

This has been arranged for Year 5 pupils in the w.b 20th March. In order to take part in the Level 1 and 2 training, please remember that the children will need their roadworthy bike to participate in this as well as a helmet.

Residential Visit

On the 8th March, Year 6 will be heading off for an exciting few days at Grafham Water. Mrs Rayment is leading the visit, accompanied by Mrs Walker, Mr Green, Mrs Preston and Mrs Ling. We will be talking to the children about preparing for the visit but should you have any concerns, please speak to your child's teacher.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom continues 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.

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.

Reading at home

As a school we are always promoting reading and the skills of comprehension which are needed to fully access and enjoy a good book. Please remind your child to read daily and to record their reading in their Home School Journals.

Once they have completed a book, we ask them to complete a quiz about it on Accelerated Reader -

<https://ukhosted43.renlearn.co.uk/2233478/public/rpm/login/Login.aspx?srcID=t>

If you need recommendations or are running out of books to choose from, please make a note in the HSJ. We will also encourage the children to use the school library.

SATS preparation

Please add to your calendar that SATS week for Year 6 is during the week of **Monday 8th May**. We will be updating you with what SATs week entails later on in the term. It is vital that the children are in school for these. Intervention groups to support the children's preparation for SAT's will continue on a Wednesday led by Mrs McMahon and Mrs Walker. The groups do change and you will be informed if your child is participating in them. The groups focus on preparation for the tests as well as working on areas clearly identified that your child needs support with.

Parent Consultation Evenings

These have been arranged for **Tuesday 28th February** and **Thursday 2nd March**.

This is an important time when we can discuss Autumn Term mock SAT assessments for Year 6, look through your child's work and celebrate successes of the year so far. Please make an appointment through the online booking - more details to follow nearer the time.

Outdoor PE Kits

All Year 5/6 continue to have PE on a Wednesday with Mr Green. Sycamore has PE on a Monday and both Willow and Maple Class on Friday morning. Both these lessons will be outside this term, so warm clothing is essential.

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 be able to remove earrings for themselves.

Outdoor/ Indoor shoes

Please check your child has these in school everyday. All children are expected to change shoes so they can enjoy the field and outdoor area fully all year round. Indoor shoes are essential for their safety during the school day and must be named and worn.

Lunchboxes and Water bottles

We seem to gather quite a collection of these items at the end of each half term, please ensure that they are named so that they can go home with the correct child.

Parent Helpers

If you would like to support us in the classroom, whether to listen to readers or help learn times tables and are able to commit to helping in school, we would love to hear from you.

Key Dates

5th January – Term starts

13th January – Genr8 visit Year 6 – 'Cool Choices'

23rd January – Diversity Role Models - PSHE

24th January – Choir visit to the O2

10th February – PTA cake stall

13th February – Half Term

2nd March – World Book Day

7th March – Class Photos

8th – 10th March – Grafham Water

31st March – Term Closes

We look forward to an exciting term ahead!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Sands, Mrs McMahon and Mrs Rayment, Mrs Walker and Mrs Ociepko.

