



MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year 6 Parents Information - Autumn 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year! We are all looking forward to a very exciting and busy final year as we look ahead to high school! Your children have made a fantastic start. The intensity and speed of activities is very demanding in Y6 but everyone has really shown great effort so far! Being at the top of the school means extra responsibility and we expect a very high standard of behaviour from the children as they are setting an example to the younger children. We operate a buddy system between Year 6 and Reception children; this helps the younger children to settle in by giving them a friend that they can go to if they are upset or worried.

Literacy

This term we will be studying a range of quality genres from long-established authors, and using these novels, true stories, and factual reports to write our own formal pieces, letters, recounts and discussion texts with writing daily in both short and extended tasks. Developing the children's vocabulary is the key to success in Y6; the use of a range of punctuation and forming complex sentences whilst using a range of conjunctions. Our read to write units for this term will be: the Nowhere Emporium, The Man Who Walked Between the Towers, The Snow Leopard, Weslandia and Until I met Dudley.

Reading

There is a **huge emphasis on reading and the acquisition of new vocabulary** in Y6 as it crucial in accessing most subject areas particularly when they move into high school. Studies have shown that a child's reading level is linked to their exam success. Your child is now able to be an independent reader so the emphasis in Year 6 is to develop their comprehension skills. Reading in Year 6 takes the form of guided reading and answering comprehension questions in a group. Your child will be given a reading book, 2 comprehension sheets and a chance to choose a library book. We expect your child to read **at least** 3 times each week. Your child will receive a point each time they read and their record is signed by an adult. This will be added up on a Friday and their face will be moved up on the homework chart!

Spellings

Children will be given 2 lists of spellings each week to learn for a test the following week. The list on Tuesday will follow a short spelling lesson and mainly follow a pattern. The list on Friday will be taken from their YEAR 6 national government keywords. A word needs to be written and applied at least 5 times before it is embedded into their long-term memory. They will be given a sheet to complete at home to help them with this and to ensure they learn the meanings of the words. Just as reading, the emphasis on spelling and building up a bank of vocabulary is to ensure they have the skills needed in high school for all subjects.

Numeracy

This term we shall be covering all 4 calculation methods and developing strategies to solve word problems. Each lesson will begin with a mental starter which will revise all topics from time to measures. We work at a fast pace in Year 6 to make sure we have covered all the concepts before SATs week and children are encouraged to ask for extra help during lunchtime. WWW.bbcrevisewise.co.uk/, WWW.HITTHEBUTTON.COM, Times Table Rockstarts are all excellent websites to use at home as well as the ones on Melling Web watch and Mathletics are websites which children are able to access at home. Your child will be given their next step targets and could use these websites at home to work on these areas. In Y6, no new times are taught as the children should know their times tables as facts by now. If your child is not confident on their times tables (knowing them as multiplication and division facts - without counting up), practise in this area will be extremely beneficial for their timed mathematic assessments. Homework is given as written sat style questions to practise the strategies they have been using in class and develop their reasoning skills.

Topics

In Science our topics will be Light and Electricity. Our Creative Curriculum theme is World War Two and will include teaching skills in History, DT, Art and Music. ICT will be used throughout every topic to aid learning and there will be a particular focus on programming. Computing lessons will be working on various APPS and coding platforms - focusing mainly on digital literacy in the first term.

P.E.

We are very lucky this year to have Mr Millington for a PE session every Thursday afternoon. As children have been told to come to school in their kit, suitable clothing, such as tracksuits and sweatshirts will be needed as the weather begins to get colder.

Homework

Your child has been given a homework diary to help them organise their week and prepare them for high school. It has been emphasised to the children that they are responsible for their home learning and ensuring they complete homework and bring it in on time and not your job! Although we encourage your child to ask for your help if they need it, please do not complete homework for them. **If your child does not have a quick recall of their times tables and division facts, it is really important that they regularly practise as this has such an impact on their ability to achieve in mathematics in their final year.**

- Monday - English Grammar (hand in on Thursday)
- Tuesday - Spellings (test on following Friday)
- Wednesday- Maths (hand in on Monday)
- Thursday- No set homework (times table practise is vitally important)
- Friday - Spellings (test on following Tuesday)
- Your child has their own times table target which they need to practise on a regular basis (tests will take place each week)
- Reading- minimum 3 times each week (2 comprehension sheets, 1 book)

- Homework diaries need to be given in on Friday. Any part of the diary highlighted pink will show the homework has not been completed or has been late. Contact will be made if homework is persistently late or of a poor standard.
- Previous Year 6 pupils have reported that the homework diary system really helped them in their transition to high school.

SATs

The dates for the KS2 SATs normally run over a one week period. In 2022 the KS2 SATs will take place between **Monday, May 12th, to Thursday, May 15th.** Over this period pupils will sit 6 different tests, with English normally taking place at the beginning of the week and maths at the end.

General reminders

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear jewellery to school other than small stud earrings.

Children are allowed to bring a bottle of still water (in a reusable bottle) to school to keep them hydrated throughout the day. Children need to take them home each day so that they can be refilled and they remain clean and fresh.

Please make sure that children's clothing and lunch boxes are clearly labelled with their name.

Most importantly...

We value every child's happiness as well as their academic achievement which depends very much on us working as a team. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact either through a telephone conversation or an appointment to come and see me after school.

Thank you,
Mr Cleaver