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Headteacher – Miss B Nugent

Mission Statement “We are special people on a journey, growing and learning together in search of excellence, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus.”

23rd February 2024

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to express what a wonderful time we shared at Gorsefield with your children. Truly, our Year 6 are a credit to you for their sense of humour and great fun and adventure. This ensured that our children laughed all the way through the week. They also demonstrated tremendous care and love for one another. During evening prayers, their reflections and insights were beautifully expressed with equal doses of deeply spiritual and moving thoughts and prayers for you and their planet. Miss Nugent was thoroughly impressed with the depth and response to prayer demonstrated by your children.

Staff members at Gorsefield were also impressed by the manners, intelligence and articulate communication shown by every child. The week also enabled Year 6 to think about transition and identify their gifts and talents through a number of team-building tasks which they performed to a high standard. Great strides were taken in everyone's confidence and maturity. Hopefully you are witnessing the fruits of this at home. Additionally, Year 6 was able to appreciate the importance of connecting with nature and recognise the positive impact this offers to their well-being. The week was a great success and once more the children of English Martyrs maintained the reputation of being the 'best school in the Borough' as reported by the Staff there. Thank you for all your support in making this memorable week possible. I thought it would be heart-warming to read the sentiments felt by Year 6 and their Gorsefield experience. Please take a moment to read their quotes which I attach to this letter.

This term will see a revision programme embedded into the curriculum. To remind you again, the Key Stage 2 Assessments are due to take place in the week beginning Monday 13th May.

SATs Week 2024

Date	Test
Monday 13 May 2024	Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling - Paper 1 Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling - Paper 2
Tuesday 14 May 2024	English Reading
Wednesday 15 May 2024	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)
Thursday 16 May 2024	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Please continue in your support in ensuring that your child completes their homework, daily reading and spellings as well as fulfil extra revision where possible. I have attached a host of revision websites your child can use to support their learning. You can also find these on our website under Year 6.

R.E

We will learn about Jesus the Messiah. This unit will provide pupils with the opportunity to reflect on their faith and what this means to them. They will study the Identity of Jesus, the Journey to Jerusalem, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and the Holy Week in Church. The importance of almsgiving and fasting will be at the forefront as well as discussions around our collective responsibility towards creating a better world.

Reading every day

Please ensure your child reads every day. The comprehension paper is more challenging than ever. It demands a greater emphasis on your child's ability to define vocabulary, ability to interpret and make inferences. Stamina and fluency must be strong. The volume of words your child will need to read and process

is also much greater. Only by reading and building vocabulary every day, will your child feel confident and able to successfully tackle their reading test.

Spellings

New spellings are set every week. They must find the meanings of the words and put them in sentences. Kindly ensure this task is undertaken diligently as the spellings are integral to achieving expected standard or above for the SPaG paper. I attach the spelling rules and spelling list for Year 6, once more. Please use this to help your child revise their spellings.

Mathematics

Measurement:

- Solve problems involving conversion of units using decimal notation up to 3 dp
- Convert between miles and kilometres
- Recognise that shapes with same areas can have different perimeters and vice versa
- Recognise formulae for shape and volume
- Calculate, estimate and compare volume of cubes using standard units

Algebra:

- Use simple formulae
- Generate and describe linear number sequences
- Express missing number problems algebraically
- Find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns

Ratio and Proportion:

- *Solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found*

Shapes:

- Illustrate and name parts of circles, including radius, diameter and circumference and know the diameter is twice the radius
- Know the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, nets and volume

Statistics:

- Interpret and construct pie charts and line graphs and use these to solve problems
- Calculate the mean as an average

Science

Living things and their habitats

Pupils should be taught to:

- describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals
- give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

Pupils should build on their learning about grouping living things in Year 4 by looking at the classification system in more detail. They should be introduced to the idea that broad groupings, such as microorganisms, plants and animals can be subdivided. Through direct observations where possible, they should classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (such as insects, spiders, snails, worms) and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals). They should discuss reasons why living things are placed in one group and not another. Pupils might find out about the significance of the work of scientists such as Carl Linnaeus, a pioneer of classification.

Humanities

- To study Local History in the context of World War II
- Study regions affected by WWII with a focus on Japan linked to class novel - Kensuke's Kingdom
- Name and locate cities and geographical regions and their human and physical characteristics and also, key topographical features such as mountains and rivers
- Identify position and significant latitude, longitude, Equator, and hemispheres. Know Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle
- Describe aspects of physical geography such as climate zones, volcanoes and water cycle
- Know aspects of Human geography such as types of settlement, land use, economic activity
- Use maps and atlases to locate countries and regions
- Use eight points of a compass and six-figure grid references, symbols and keys of Ordnance Survey maps

IT

What is a spreadsheet?

Modifying spreadsheets

What's the formula?

Calculate and duplicate
Event planning
Presenting data

P.E

Year 6 will be developing their defence and attack skills through handball.

English

This will be taught through Oranges in No Man's Land and Kensuke's Kingdom with a focus on the following genres:

- Diary extracts
- Letters
- Predictions
- Debating
- Poetry
- Short story
- Procedural

The homework timetable for Spring term is as follows:

Monday - Maths due in the next day
Tuesday - The Big read
Wednesday - Arithmetic questions due in the next day
Thursday - SPaG due in the next day and Comprehension due in the following Thursday
Friday - English and Maths or one other subject due in on Monday

Reading

The reading test will be a single paper with questions based on three passages of text. **Your child will have one hour, including reading time, to complete the test.**

There will be a selection of question types, including:

- **Ranking/ordering**, e.g. 'Number the events below to show the order in which they happen in the story'
- **Labelling**, e.g. 'Label the text to show the title of the story'
- **Find and copy**, e.g. 'Find and copy one word that suggests what the weather is like in the story'
- **Short constructed response**, e.g. 'What does the bear eat?'
- **Open-ended response**, e.g. 'Look at the sentence that begins *Once upon a time*. How does the writer increase the tension throughout this paragraph? Explain fully, referring to the text in your answer.'

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test

The grammar, punctuation and spelling test will consist of two parts: a **grammar and punctuation paper** requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and an **aural spelling test of 20 words**, lasting around 15 minutes. The grammar and punctuation test will include two subtypes of questions:

- **Selected response**, e.g. 'Identify the adjectives in the sentence below'
- **Constructed response**, e.g. 'Correct/complete/rewrite the sentence below,' or, 'The sentence below has an apostrophe missing. Explain why it needs an apostrophe.'

Mathematics

Children will sit three papers in maths:

- Paper 1: **arithmetic**, 30 minutes
- Papers 2 and 3: **reasoning**, 40 minutes per paper

Paper 1 will consist of fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct answer to calculations, including long multiplication and division. Papers 2 and 3 will involve a number of question types, including:

- Constrained questions, e.g. giving the answer to a calculation, drawing a shape or completing a table or chart
- Less constrained questions, where children will have to explain and demonstrate their approach for solving a problem

I will look forward to seeing you all over the next fortnight for parent meetings to discuss your child's progress and development. Your continued co-operation remains invaluable.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Pasha

Revision websites

Children are encouraged to undertake a regular programme of revision alongside their usual weekly homework tasks. This will be guided by me to reflect lessons taught in class. The following websites are useful resources. Many of these are interactive and use brief tutorials or engage the children to use their knowledge through playing games.

(Clicible links are also available in the online version of this letter found on the Year 6 class page).

Maths and English Practise

IXL have separate pages of skills linked to individual Year groups. The Yr 6 page has links to practise both English and Maths skills.

https://uk.ixl.com/promo?partner=google&campaign=1187&adGroup=Key+Stage+2&gclid=CPPa8teS_8kCFQbnwgodgOIB6A

BBC Education have produced a whole host of materials for KS2. Follow the KS2 link and then select either Maths or English. Each area usually has an information section for reading, plus an activity and then quiz which is marked online. Some aspects require a subscription.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>

A site with both Maths and English based quizzes which are marked as you go along.

<http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/maths/>

A site with a range of information and questions.

http://www.icteachers.co.uk/children/children_sats.htm

A revision site based upon the old Key Stage 2 Tests but still contains lots of useful information for both Maths and English.

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision/>

A site with links to old style Key Stage 2 Maths Papers, Maths Tutorials as well as Maths Games. Some of these games are linked to Memory and would therefore help pupils to retain key information.

<http://www.online-maths-tutor.com/>

Click on "For Kids" to access some fun games to practise speed of recall of times tables.

<http://www.mad4maths.com/>

This site has loads of Maths games which help to practise a range of skills.

<http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

Loads of Maths games on a range of Mathematical concepts.

<https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm>

A range of English games and activities.

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

Activities to reinforce and practise a range of spelling rules.

<http://www.keystage2literacy.co.uk/spellings-menu.html>

A range of activities and games to practise a range of spelling rules and patterns.

<http://www.spellzone.com/games/index.cfm?wordlist=2255>