



**Headteacher Mrs A Carnell**

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**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
Appleton CE (A) Primary School  
Church Road  
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Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the summer holidays. This is a brief introductory letter to give you some information about Year 6 and let you know about the variety of activities that I have already planned.

I have 26 children in the class and all the children need to be in the classroom at their table ready for the register and to begin a morning activity by 8.45 am. This year we have Mrs Bradbrook as the class's teaching assistant.

The year we will be starting our topic work with the Ancient Maya Britain since the 1930s and later on in the year we will be learning about Britain since the 1930s, Rivers and the UK. Please see our class page on the school website and Google Classroom for more details of my long term curriculum planning.

This term our PE time will be on a Tuesday morning and a Friday afternoon. Children need to wear their PE kit to school on these days including trainers. Please can long hair be tied back and all jewellery, including earrings, taken off.

Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be due in on a Tuesday. Each week I will go through the homework before I set it and ensure that the children understand what they need to do. However, I will also be putting the homework onto Google Classroom in case they arrive home and find that they are unsure about the work they must do. Year 6 homework will include practising our weekly spellings via Spelling Shed and mathematical fluency practise via either Times Tables Rock Stars or Maths Shed. There may be occasions when you think spellings are too easy but sometimes children learn words for a test that they continue to mis-spell in their written work! This term spelling tests will be on a Wednesday. Occasionally I will set a short task related to what we are working on in class or something that is coming up.

I will not usually set specific reading homework but I do expect all children to read at home every day for at least 20 minutes, whether it is a book or a newspaper and for it to be recorded in their reading record even if they have read independently.

As you may be aware, in the summer term children in Year 6 will take part in statutory assessments called Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). I will be doing many different things throughout the year to prepare the children for these tests. The Year 6 children will sit tests in:

- 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.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar - The grammar, punctuation and spelling test will consist of two parts: a grammar and punctuation paper requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and a spelling test of 20 words, lasting around 15 minutes.
- Maths - Children will sit three papers in maths: Paper 1: arithmetic, 30 minutes, Papers 2 and 3: reasoning, 40 minutes per paper. The children are not allowed to use a calculator in these tests.

Throughout the year we will be continuing our focus on developing a Growth Mindset through the use of our animal attitudes: Fearless Fox, Bounce-back Bunny, Must-do Mole, Bold Badger, Steadfast Squirrel and Mindful Magpie. Developing their Risk-taking, Elasticity, Commitment, Initiative, Perseverance and Empathy is a RECIPE for helping children to become proactive, lifelong learners, and children who show these attitudes will be celebrated on our Growth Mindset display and in Collective Worship across the school.

I am really looking forward to working with your children this year, they are a pleasure to teach and I have thoroughly enjoyed the first few days with them already. Please do come and see me if you have any comments or questions.

Best wishes,

Lucy Sutton