

## Year 5/6 Newsletter September 2017

A very warm welcome to those joining the Y5/6 department, and welcome back to those who were in Y5 last year! There have been a few changes in the department over the last few months, such as Merlin & Owl class moving classrooms, the new toilet area in the former cloakroom and Mrs. Bown going on maternity leave. We would like to welcome Miss Smith as new member of staff in our department who will be covering Mrs. Bown.

Due to the new location of the cloakrooms, the amount of space children have for their daily equipment is much reduced. Therefore we would ask that you ensure you send your child with a smaller bag to allow more space for themselves and others. Children will also be storing their lunchboxes in storage boxes outside the classrooms rather than in the cloakroom for the same reason.

### **The Y5/6 Team:**

#### **Teachers:**

Mr. Attenborough – Merlin Class

Miss Smith – Flamingo Class

Mrs. Birkin (Mon/Tue) & Mr. Clark (Wed/Thur/Fri) – Owl Class

#### **Teaching Assistants:**

Mrs. Riley

Mrs. Gresswell

Mrs. Trueman

Mrs. Mitchell

Mrs. Stafford

Mrs. Cooper

Mrs. Bamford (PPA cover)

Mrs. Bartlett (PPA cover)

### **Homework & reading books**

As per last year, we will be continuing to set homework roughly once a week, as per the timetable below.

#### **Reading books** (see below)

**Tables/Mental maths activity** – children will be expected to learn times tables by heart for tests which will happen weekly- this is a vital part of their learning and it's really important that children keep practising their times tables.

**Weekly homework** relating to one of: English, Mathematics or Topic. This task will be set on a Monday and will need to be handed in the following Monday.

Your support with your child's learning at home plays a very important part towards the progress they will make.

Reading books are changed when the children have completed them, and the children will be doing at least one guided reading session every other week with the teacher. Most children in Y5/6 are

free readers, and we expect them to choose appropriate books for their ability level. If a child wants to bring a book in from home, that is fine; however we would like to encourage children a variety of genres and styles of book. We expect children to read independently at home also but teachers in most cases do not monitor this.

### **Timetable and organisation**

The children will be taught in their own classes for English and most other subjects, but they may have a different teacher for SPAG (spelling, punctuation & grammar), Maths, ICT and P.E

We will support them to make sure they are in the right place whilst they get used to everything.

P.E. times for the first half term are as follows:

Class	Owls	Flamingos	Merlins
Indoor P.E.	Wednesday afternoon	Friday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon
Outdoor P.E.	Thursday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon

Please ensure children have appropriate kit with them on the days when required.

### **Transition to secondary school**

Dates for the open days & evenings for the local secondary schools will soon be confirmed, and these will be shared with parents when we receive the information. This will allow to visit the schools for you to apply for a secondary place for your child.

### **Water bottles:**

Please provide your child with a named bottle of water to be sipped in class in order to keep hydrated. Children must be responsible to take the bottle home at the end of the school day so it can be washed and refilled ready for the next day. Fresh fruit is the only snack allowed at break times.

### **Rewards & Sanctions:**

There are many different ways in which children are rewarded in Year 5/6, such as house points, table points and extra breaktimes. If children do not follow instructions, then the card system is used. If a child is given a red card (when they have shown inappropriate behaviour 4 times during the day), then a text message will be sent home to parents to make them aware. If a child receives three red cards over a half term, then the child will be put on a home school behaviour log following a discussion with parents.

### **Class worships (in new hall)**

Merlin Class: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Owl Class: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

Flamingo Class: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018

The Y5/6 end of year production will take place towards the end of the final half term; this will be at 7pm in the Sixth Form hall at Kirk Hallam.

We hope you find the information useful- please come and ask the team if you have any questions!  
Yours sincerely

Y5/6 Team- Mr. Attenborough, Mr. Clark, Miss Smith & Mrs. Birkin