

Year 5/6 Newsletter September 2016

Welcome to Year 5/6! The children have already made a great start to the year, and have begun to get in to the busy routine we have planned for them! Also we would like to send our congratulations to Mrs. Gresswell (formerly Burrows) who got married in the Summer holidays.

The Y5/6 Team:

Teachers:

Mr. Attenborough – Merlin Class

Mrs. Bown – Flamingo Class

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

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs. Riley

Mrs. Gresswell (formerly Mrs. Burrows!)

Mrs. Hanson (formerly Mrs. McCarthy!)

Mrs. Trueman

Mrs. Mitchell

Mr. Hutchinson

Mrs. Cooper

Mrs. Stafford

Mrs. Bamford (PPA cover)

Mrs. Bartlett (PPA cover)

Homework & reading books

In view of the more demanding curriculum, we are changing our approach to homework this year. The 'topic choice' will be replaced by the following tasks to be completed each week:

Reading books (see below)

Tables/Mental maths activity – children will be expected to learn times tables by heart for tests

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.

Also on a Thursday for the first half term, all Year 5/6 children will be doing New Testament Bible Explorers sessions with James Coates who sometimes comes in to lead worship- this is to follow on from last year's work looking at the Old Testament.

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

| Class | Owls | Flamingos | Merlins |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Indoor P.E. | Friday afternoon | Thursday afternoon | Friday afternoon |
| Outdoor P.E. | Thursday morning | Friday afternoon | Friday afternoon |

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

Transition to secondary school

Y6 children have already received information about applying for a secondary school place. The open days for the local secondary schools are as follows:

Kirk Hallam: Wednesday 28th September (9.30am-11am & 6pm-7.30pm)

Heanor Gate: Thursday 22nd September (5pm-8pm)

St. John Houghton: Thursday 22nd September (from 8.45am)

Ilkeston Ormiston: Tuesday 27th September (6-8pm)

Please come and speak to Mr. Attenborough or Mr. Poole if you require more information on transition to secondary school.

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 (all at 9.15 in new hall)

Merlin Class: Wednesday 7th December 2016

Owl Class: Thursday 23rd March 2017

Flamingo Class: Thursday 9th February 2017

The Y5/6 end of year production will take place towards the end of the final half term, and this will be at 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, Mrs. Bown & Mrs. Birkin