

Welcome to Year 6



September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope that the children have had a good rest and are ready for a busy and exciting year ahead! Year 6 is an exciting time for your child to show and develop their maturity, and all the children seem ready to face the challenges and responsibilities of their final year at St Michael's Junior School. As you know, all the Year 6 classes are named after explorers (David **Attenborough**, Christopher **Columbus** and Ernest **Shackleton**) and we look forward to learning more about these inspirational people throughout the year.

Roles and Responsibilities

In Year 6, children will be given the opportunity to take on roles of responsibility within the school; being a House Captain or Sports Leader are just two examples. Further information regarding the House Captain application process will be shared with the children shortly. We know the children will enjoy these responsibilities and carry them out with pride. It is really important to us that our Year 6 children are role models for the rest of the school and demonstrate our school values of Respect, Courage and Resilience in all that they do.

Important Dates

Thursday 19th September – 9:00 a.m. Meet the Teacher Information session for Parents. There will be an opportunity to see your child's class followed by a short presentation by the teachers about the Year 6 expectations and the year ahead. Further information will follow.

Friday 27th September at 3:30pm – Year 6 PGL Parent Meeting.

Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October – Year 6 PGL visit

Friday 25th October – Year 6 trip to Runways End (details to follow)

Tuesday 17th December - Year 6 Carol Concert at 6:30pm A letter with further information and details regarding the allocation of tickets will be sent nearer the time.

At the end of each half term, parents and carers are invited to attend Parent Work Viewing sessions where the children will share some of their fantastic learning with you. We hope that by providing you with the dates for the year you will be able to attend.

| Date | Time |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Friday 8 th November | 9:15am |
| Wednesday 18 th December | 9:15am |
| Tuesday 11 th February | 2:45pm |
| Wednesday 1 st April | 2:45pm |
| Thursday 21 st May | 9:15am |
| Monday 6 th July | 9:15am |

As you will be aware, applications for Year 7 secondary school places must be made this half term and all of the local schools will be holding open evenings. Most schools will also hold tours during the day and we are more than happy for you to take your child on these, but please let the office know in advance.

The Key Stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May. More information will be given in the Spring term.

PE Kits

Children should have a t-shirt in their house colour, black shorts and trainers/plimsolls please. Coloured T-shirts with the school logo can be purchased from our uniform supplier Link Up. In colder weather the children will often benefit from having a tracksuit. It is useful if the children have a spare pair of socks in their PE bag (especially for girls who wear tights). Please note that only stud earrings should be worn and these **MUST** be taped up for PE. Please provide your child with tape if this applies. All PE kit should be clearly labelled and the children should have their PE kits and trainers in school every day. Year 6 PE days will be Monday and Thursday.

Snacks

Please remember that we have children in school who are severely allergic to nuts and nut products. Therefore any snacks provided must not contain these products. Snacks should be healthy in accordance with our healthy schools initiative such as fruit or vegetable sticks. All snacks for morning break should be placed in the class snack box on arrival in school rather than remaining inside lunchboxes please.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day. **Water only please.**

Punctuality and Attendance

It is extremely important that your child arrives at school on time and ready to learn. Doors open at 8:35am, the school day begins at 8:45am and all pupils are expected to be in school at this time. Morning registration is at 8:50 am and closes at 9:00am.

Homework

Homework will begin on the 26th September and will be sent home each **Thursday** with the expectation that it will be returned by the following **Wednesday**. This is the same across the school. Please check your child's homework folder each week.

In Year 6, weekly homework will consist of reading, spelling and times tables or arithmetic to enrich our learning in class. Please support your child to complete this to the best of their ability. If they need further guidance from school, then they just need to ask their class teacher. It is helpful if this is done before homework is due in please.

Reading

In everything we do we foster the love of reading and this can carry on at home; encourage your children to read anything – books, newspapers, magazines, recipes (maths as well!) or even the back of the cereal packet! They can read aloud, or quietly on their own, and children of all ages always enjoy being read to. Whilst we know family life is busy, research and our own experiences show that it really does make a difference to children's learning and achievements.

Your child should be aiming to read for at least 20 minutes, four times a week. Many children will of course be reading for longer than this due to the nature of the text that they are reading. It would be appreciated if you would support your child in keeping their Reading Record up to date. Children and/or parents should write a comment about the book they are reading or how they have read, including the discussions you may have had regarding the text content.

Spellings

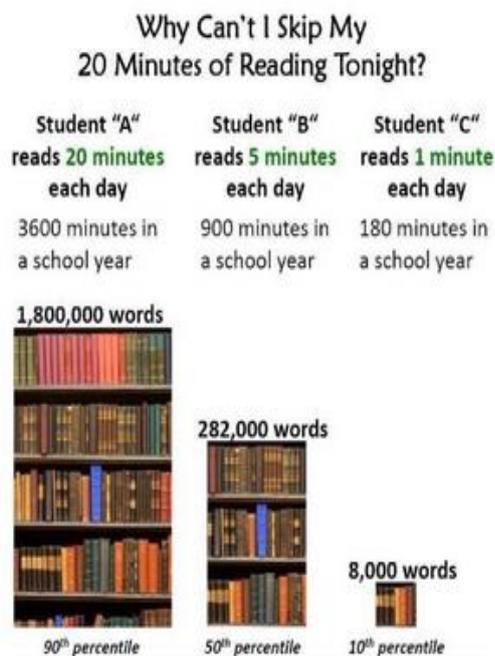
Spellings will be set from the Year 6 spelling curriculum. Children should practise their spellings every evening. Children will be tested on a **Wednesday** and the children's work will be monitored to ensure they are applying their new spelling knowledge. It is not just about the children getting their words correct in a test.

Times Tables/Arithmetic

Children should continue to practise their Maths at home. We use TTRockstars as an online resource to support children to learn their times tables. Your child's homework folder will record the times tables and arithmetic area that the children are working on. The children's scores from TTRockstars will also be checked on a **Wednesday**. When we look online at scores, we are looking at the improvement for each child. The aim of this learning is to not only increase children's knowledge but also their speed and fluency at recalling related number facts. Further information and logins will be sent home on Thursday 26th September.

Topic related project

This homework will be given half-termly and will relate to the topic that the children are studying within their year group. As it is project based, the children will be able to select their own method of presentation. The projects will need to be handed in on a set date which will be detailed in the homework folder and will form part of the Parent Work Viewings presented to parents. We really enjoy sharing these creative and exciting projects both in class and with other year groups.



Uniform

It is important that your child is dressed in the correct school uniform. High expectations are important for our school community. The children need to wear their uniform with pride. Please help us to ensure that this is the case. Uniform consists of:

Boys' Uniform

- Wine coloured crew neck sweatshirt with school logo
- White polo shirt with or without school logo
- Maroon fleece badged with school logo
- Grey Trousers
- Grey Shorts
- Grey or white socks
- Sensible black school shoes (no trainers)

Girls' Uniform

- Wine coloured crew neck sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- White polo shirt with or without school logo
- Maroon fleece badged with school logo
- Grey pleated pinafore dress, pleated skirt or trousers
- Red checked dress
- Sensible black school shoes
- Grey or white socks
- Grey tights

Please note that the St. Michael's logo school fleeces can be worn in place of the school sweatshirt or cardigan.

Optional items for Year 6 only

- White shirt.
- School tie (can be purchased from School Office)

All belongings, including all items of school uniform, should be clearly labelled to aid their return should they be lost. If your child mislays an item, please look through the lost property box. The school keeps lost property for a short period of time and clears it at the end of each half-term.

Hair

Long hair should be tied back during the school day. Please use plain headbands, clips or bobbles that complement the school uniform.

Jewellery

The only jewellery the school permits a child to wear is a plain small wrist watch and/or plain small studs for earrings. Pupils with earrings must remove them for PE or tape them as noted above. Other items are not permissible in school.

Head Dress

The school recognises that some faiths require headdress to be worn and this is respected.

Mobile Phones

We do understand that there may be a need for a child who walks to and from school independently to be contactable and so may need a mobile phone. If this is the case, please contact the school office for the mobile phone policy.

Parent Helpers

We are always on the lookout for parent helpers within school. If you would like to volunteer on a regular or ad hoc basis, please contact your child's class teacher. All volunteers within school must have a DBS check, which can be arranged via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Miss Cacutt, Miss Baker, Mrs Dean, Mrs Cartwright and Mrs Ewing
The Year 6 Team