

Year Six

Autumn Term 2017

Curriculum News letter (Termly Class Letter)

Class Teachers: Ms Ali, Ms Davies Mr Farmer, Ms Jeffels and Ms P

Issue 1

Welcome back! We all hope you enjoyed your summer break! The children have settled in really well and made a great start to Year Six. Outlined below is some information about the upcoming term and details about Year Six in general.

In **English**, we will be writing and reading a range of genres, both fiction and non-fiction. Children will be given the opportunity to extend their writing ability in regular extended writing sessions. In addition to English lessons, pupils will also have a discrete grammar and spelling lesson on Monday afternoons, in which we will focus on a specific area of grammar. Pupils will be tested on their spelling lists too. We will be setting the children according to their learning needs and there will most likely be movement between the groups throughout the year. There will be four groups taught by Ms Ali, Ms Jeffels/Ms P, Ms Davies and Mr Farmer.

In **Maths** we will follow the new Year 6 curriculum, which includes number work, shape and space and data handling. Maths will be taught in four groups by Ms Davies, Ms Jeffels/Mrs P, Ms Ali and Mr Farmer. As with English groups, the groups will be reviewed regularly.

In **Science** we will be following the Year 6 Science curriculum as well as focusing on extending children's investigative skills. This term the units will include: micro-organisms and light.

This half term, our topic is '**Mysteries of the Mayans**'.

After half term our topic will be '**Where the Sun Never Sets – The British Empire**'.

Both of these topics have a history focus, however, we shall also be covering some geographical skills (e.g. map work). This half term in Art we will be focusing on printing skills and in DT we will be designing, making and evaluating our own chocolate product.

In **Music** we will be performing songs from memory and taking the lead in the Christmas show.

If you have any resources or expertise relating to this term's topics, please do get in touch.

In **PE** our focus for this half term will be dance and gymnastics and some units on Junior Leadership Skills. PE will be taught on Thursdays and Fridays. The children will be learning matching and mirroring skills and how to structure simple dances independently and with a partner using motifs and different stimuli.

It is essential that children have their PE kits in school everyday. This includes a Rhodes Avenue T-shirt (available from the school office), shorts, jogging bottoms, a warm top and appropriate footwear. Children will be asked to remove or cover earrings before taking part in their PE session.

Our **School Values** for this academic year are: 'Co-operation', 'Empathy', 'Fairness', 'Forgiveness', 'Kindness' and 'Loyalty'.

Homework

Homework at Rhodes Avenue provides children with the opportunity to consolidate their classroom learning. The aim of homework is to develop pupil independence, resilience and resourcefulness. They should be able to complete their homework with minimal adult support, however, if your child does struggle with the homework provided please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

Homework will take a number of different forms this year. Each week there will be one main piece of homework to be completed. This will be sent home on a Thursday and will be expected in on the following Monday. There will also be a small amount of maths homework set three times a week to reinforce concepts taught in maths groups. Grammar homework and spelling lists will be set on Mondays for the following Monday. Pupils will be encouraged to record homework tasks in their planners and spelling lists will be stuck in each week. We would be grateful if parents/carers could sign pupils' planners on a Thursday. Pupils will hand in their planners on a Friday morning.

In Year 6 we encourage all children to become independent. It is therefore important that your child has a pencil case, which contains writing pencils, a sharpener, a rubber, a ruler, a pen and some colouring pencils. It is essential that your child brings his or her planner to and from school every day. A school bag will make a significant difference to homework, letters and books making it home and back to school again. Your child is expected to read for a minimum of 20 minutes each night. Your child's class teacher will monitor their reading records on a weekly basis and/or daily if necessary. Your support in this task is clearly invaluable.

Important Autumn term dates for your diaries:

Half term	Monday 23 rd October-Friday 27 th October
Parents' evenings	Wednesday 15 th and Thursday 16 th November
Christmas Productions	6 th , 7 th and 8 th December
End of term	Thursday 21 st December

Other Information

Year Six Residential Trip

The dates for the residential are Monday 16th – Friday 20th April 2018.

Further information will be given out containing details of the trip. Requests for medical and dietary requirements, as well as the kit required by the children will also be sent out in due course. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the trip at a short meeting-date and time to be announced.

Educational visits

Educational visits are an important aspect of the Rhodes Avenue Curriculum. School visits and trips provide the opportunity to enrich learning outside of the classroom and inspire learning back at school. We aim to take the children on as many school trips as possible however we recognise this can become costly. We have decided this year to set a maximum limit on the amount we ask you to pay for trips over the whole year to £30. The school will make every effort to keep the cost of the educational visits to a minimal by using public transport or by visiting free exhibitions.

Staffing

Ms Ali will have release time as part of her role as Assistant Head teacher and 6EA will be taught by Ms Jeffels on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon.

Planning time will be on a Thursday morning and will be covered by Mr Amooty, Madame Chadler and Ms Sawyer.

SATs

And finally a brief word about SATs! Clearly we want your children to achieve their full potential. However, we believe it is important to keep them in proportion. Our aim is therefore to prepare the children thoroughly for the tests so that they can approach them with a real sense of confidence, but at the same time do our best to avoid any unnecessary anxiety. Your help in this task would be greatly appreciated. We know that many of you like to support your children outside school. We do request that you do not go through any past papers with areas children need further consolidation to ensure they have no gaps in their understanding when they move onto secondary school. Once children have completed any SATs papers, we send them home and you will then have the opportunity to go through them with your child. Children need an A4 lever arch folder and a pack of dividers in which they can store revision work. At the moment SATs week is provisionally taking place during the week commencing 8th May 2017.

Secondary transfer information will be sent home shortly. Please note the early deadline.

Healthy Schools

As part of school policy and our commitment to being a Healthy School please ensure that you child's playtime snack is fresh fruit and/or vegetables. Water will always be available during the school day however we are happy for you to bring into school a bottle of water clearly labelled.

If you have any questions or queries, please do remember we are always here to help. Please speak to a member of the team to arrange a mutually convenient time.

We looking forward to working with you,
Emel Ali, James Farmer, Alison Davies, Demi Jeffels and Maria P.

RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rhodes Avenue, Wood Green, London N22 7UT

Tel: 020 8888 2859/5785

Fax: 020 8881 7090

Email: office@rhodes.haringey.sch.uk

Website: <http://rhodesavenue.school>

