Dear Parents,

A new year and what a very important one it is for your child! I have been very impressed by the positive attitude and level of enthusiasm displayed by your children so far and I am looking forward to sharing with them the challenges and journey that lies ahead.

As they are the eldest children in school we expect them to act as role models for their peers. Some of the children will take on extra responsibilities such as becoming prefects and team captains and we are already ‘on the look out’ for children who are ready to take on this role. I know they are all excited about this!

PE will be on Wednesday afternoon and Monday morning. If your child cannot swim 25 meters, then they will be travelling to St.Annes baths for a swimming session on Monday morning. If your child is not going swimming, then they will have a PE slot Monday morning. We will be outside as much as possible, so as it gets colder, your child may want to bring tracksuit bottoms and trainers for PE.

As a healthy school, we are encouraging the children to bring fruit if they want a snack at playtime. We also understand the importance of keeping our brains hydrated, so bottles containing water are vital part of our day.

On Thursday your child will be given homework. Please can homework be returned on the Tuesday of the following week. This term, weekly homework will consist of an English and a Maths related task and we will be revising the all-important times tables which we use frequently throughout our daily sessions. In Year 6 your support and expectations that homework is completed is particularly crucial as a preparatory step to help them meet the homework requirements of secondary school. As always, we ask you to find a quiet place for its completion and that you encourage them to produce homework of a high standard.

Of course, every teacher at KWPS feels passionately about your child’s progress but it is fair to say due to the nature of the current education requirements, SATs loom particularly large in Year 6. We will, during the year, be preparing them for these tests and homework is part of this learning process. SATs testing covers, Reading, Writing, Maths, Spelling and Grammar and will be held in the week beginning the 8th of May 2023.

Spellings, which will relate to the current rules being taught and reinforced through the Read, Write inc program in school. There will be a spelling test each Friday based on the rule that the children have been focusing on that week. Look, say, cover, write and check sheets are available to help you support your child.

As your children are fluent readers reading out loud is less important, however your input remains vital. We expect your child to continue to read on a regular basis and we are focusing in particular on developing their inference skills. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could encourage your child to discuss what they have read. There is also reading plus which contains electronic books which have built in opportunities for developing comprehension.

Finally, I want your child to learn and flourish at school, so please do not hesitate to contact me by email at ruth.lewthwaite@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk

or contact me on classdojo to discuss any concerns you might have.

I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Ruth Lewthwaite

Year 6 teacher