

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 so far by your children and I am looking forward to sharing with them the challenges and journey that lies ahead.

As they're 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 am quite sure that you and your child have many questions regarding the proposed trip to Hothersall Lodge in the summer months and there will be meetings organised nearer to the time enabling you to ask questions and giving us the opportunity to address any concerns. We are all hoping that this residential trip will go ahead and Covid will be a distant memory by then, but obviously we will keep you informed of any developments nearer to the time.

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. On Thursday your child will have brought home a homework pack which can be returned on the Tuesday 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. Spellings which will relate to the current rules being taught in school are sent home weekly, going out on a Friday to be tested the following Friday. 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 to discuss any concerns you might have.

I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Ruth Lewthwaite

Year 6 teacher