Dear Parents & Carers,

**Autumn 1, 202****5**

**Welcome back to Lyminster and a warm welcome to Year 6.**

The children have already settled in well to their new school routines and into Year 6. We are very pleased to welcome them back and are really looking forward to this term.

Our first topic is **The Gunpowder Plot**. We will be telling the infamous tale through story-telling and creative writing and fully immersing ourselves in the history of the period through our history lessons and our class reader, *Black Powder* by Ally Sherrick.

Our trip to London and the Houses of Parliament is imminent and you should have already received additional information about this in a separate letter. This will be an exciting and interesting visit for the children, along with the fun of travelling by train to London with their friends.

**Dates for the diary:**

* **Thursday 4th September** – first day of Autumn term
* **Friday 5th September** – Houses of Parliament trip
* **Friday 19th September** – Own clothes Day – Jeans for Genes
* **Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th September –** Bikeability Week (further information to follow)
* **Friday 26th September** – INSET DAY
* **Thursday 2nd October –** Harvest Festival celebrations from 2.30pm
* **Monday 20th – Friday 24th October** – Personal Development week
* **Thursday 23rd October –** Halloween Disco – KS2 4-5.30pm(further information to follow)
* **Friday 24th October –** individual school photos – full school uniform
* **Friday 24th October –** last day of half term
* **Monday 27th – Friday 31st October** – HALF TERM
* **Monday 3rd November –** first day of Autumn 2
* **Friday 19th December –** last day of Autumn term

**Things to remember:**

* Your child has PE on **Monday and Wednesday**; therefore, they will need to wear their school, house colour PE kit for the day. We are more than happy for children to wear joggers and sweatshirts as we approach the colder months. If your child has long hair, it **must** be tied up and if they have earrings they either **must** be removed or need to have micropore tape to cover them.
* Please remember that we are now a paperless school wherein letters are emailed, thus it is vital you check your emails on a regular basis. For those who have not provided an email address, we will provide paper copies.
* Please ensure your child has their jumper or cardigan and a waterproof coat with them as we are actively encouraging outside play whatever the weather. Some class time may also be spent outside whilst the weather is fine.
* Every child needs their own water bottle in school **EVERY** day. All items **MUST** be labelled with the child’s name to prevent them being lost.
* Children are expected to read **EVERY** day. Please read with your child or discuss with them what they are reading. Pose questions to them about what they have understood to assist them with their comprehension skills. **If you can spare any time at all during the school day to come and listen to some of our pupils read (even if it’s ten minutes at the start or end of the day), we would love to have you come in.** Please do speak to me if this is something that you would like to do!

**Homework**

Homework will be set and marked on a Thursday; therefore, homework books are expected to be in school every Thursday. Maths homework will be set online using MyMaths. Your child will be given a log in for this and will be taught how to access the work. Please support them to do this.

* Children **must** read at least 5 times a week and to read an age-appropriate book. They may read a book from home, or one chosen in school.
* Spellings and English tasks will be printed and stuck into homework books, **every Thursday**. These lists will be tested weekly and changed every other week.
* It is extremely important that your child completes their homework. Completed daily, this should amount to around 15 minutes per day.
* Other homework will comprise of reading comprehensions and grammar practice, which will also be stuck into homework books.

We are focusing on general presentation and handwriting in every lesson and undertaking handwriting practice regularly in year 6. Please be reminded that you and your child have free access to our handwriting website: https://www.letterjoin.co.uk. The username is **ak3814** and the password is **home.**

As always, if there are any worries or concerns, or you just want to check how your child is getting on, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available via email, dwilliams106@lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk, from 8.30 - 5pm Monday – Friday. If you would like to meet in person, please either call or email the office and I will endeavour to see you as soon as I can.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Williams

Year 6 Teacher and Key Stage 2 Leader