



Class Newsletter: Year 6 Swan Class

Date: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023


Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a very warm 'welcome back' to you all. I hope you and your family all had a lovely summer break and kept safe and well. I am very excited to have the chance to teach a super group of children in their final year at primary school. They are going to be fabulous role models and we are going to have a very enjoyable final year!

Alongside this letter, you should receive a Topic Web and Knowledge Organiser which will detail all curriculum information, including what will be taught in each subject over the next term. Our first class is called 'The Emergency Zoo'. It's a familiar book for me and is indeed one of my favourites. It has also been a favourite of previous classes I have taught in Year 6 so I am very much looking forward to reading it again with the children and basing lots of our learning around it. It is set during World War II, which will indeed be our first History topic this year.

Our Values this term are 'Respect' and 'Courage'. We will also be putting lots of things in place to help settle the children back into school life including our Wellbeing Curriculum based on 'The 5 Ways to Wellbeing'. Our first focus is 'Keep Learning'. Your child will be familiar with our three school rules of 'Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful' and as always, these will be revisited to ensure we keep the children safe and happy on their return to school.

Lots of parents often ask me about ideas for books at home so after this letter, I have listed an updated list of age-appropriate, popular books for Year 6 children. In school, we use Accelerated Reader to track the children's reading. Children choose books appropriate to their reading ability and take comprehension quizzes regularly to help support their comprehension.



Once the children are settled in, homework will be set each Monday to be handed in and marked the following Monday. It will be based on prior learning and used as a way of consolidating what the children have already been taught. Alongside this, the children will also have weekly spellings and should practice their times tables. It is also our expectation that the children read regularly at home; this should be recorded in the child's Reading Record, which should be present in school each day.

To help prepare for the high expectations at secondary school and to be Year 6 role-models, it is very important that our children wear the correct uniform. Our school uniform is as follows:

- Blue jumper
- White or blue polo shirt (with all buttons fastened)
- Black or grey shorts
- Black or grey skirt
- Blue summer dress
- Children are able to wear all black footwear.

PE will be taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays so children will need to make sure that they wear their PE kits into school on this day each week. Children should wear PE uniform only. As with last year, we will also be encouraging all of our Year 6 pupils to be sports ambassadors to our whole school. This means that their PE kit will consist of a **black PE top** if possible (or white as normal) with black or blue bottoms. Children will also need to bring in a refillable water bottle each day.

All that's left to say again is that I am so looking forward to welcoming back the children and am very excited about the year ahead. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me via email or the school office if you have any questions or concerns. I am always happy to have a chat or a meeting with you. No question is too big or too small!

Best wishes and looking forward to a great year ahead,

Mr Sykes ([gsykes@rodbournecheney.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:gsykes@rodbournecheney.swindon.sch.uk))

