

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of an exciting Autumn term! We hope you and the children have had a refreshing summer break and are looking forward to getting back into the school routine!

This term we will be looking at The Americas; our history lessons will be about the ancient Maya civilisation and our geography will look at the difference latitude makes to a climate across the American continent. For further information please see the topic web.

Please could we reiterate that children should have a named bottle in school every day and that this must only contain water. Children are welcome to bring a fruit or vegetable snack for break time but no nuts must be brought into school as we have children with serious allergies.

Children also need a pencil case which should contain a blue and black pen, a pencil, a rubber, a ruler, a whiteboard pen and a glue stick. It would be very helpful if these were named on a small sticker. Colouring pens or pencils are optional. Children should only have one pencil case and this must be able to fit easily into their desk drawer.

We will be going off on our annual Year 6 residential to Plas Pencelli in the Brecon Beacons in the week commencing 16th September. Please ensure all paperwork is returned to us as soon as possible. Children not attending the residential are expected to be in school as they will be completing research that will be used in the weeks following the residential.

Whilst we are all delighted to see that the majority of children are looking very smart in their school uniform, we would ask for your support to ensure that the children are wearing proper school shoes. We will be continuing with the policy of coming to school in PE kit on PE Days which are Mondays and Fridays. We would like you to ensure that your child has the correct PE kit for both indoor and outdoor sessions. This consists of plain black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms, a t-shirt in their house colour and plain black or school branded hoodie. Please note that as part of the school's PE policy, earrings and other jewellery must not be worn.

Although we have lots of fun things planned this year, expectations of behaviour and work will continue to be extremely high. Work that is not completed during the allocated amount of time or work that is not completed to the best of each child's ability will be sent home. We hope that you will support us by helping your child to complete it.

In year 6, we expect the children to read every night and to fill in their homework

diary independently, thereby encouraging them to become responsible for their own learning. Reading rewards will continue this year with treats accumulating for those who read 4 times every week. Please can you ensure that your child's homework diary comes into school every day; they will be collected in and checked every Monday.

We also encourage the children to continue to complete their doodle maths each day; this short activity has proven to make a massive difference to children's confidence and attainment in maths. Dojos will be awarded each day for those who have completed the previous day or are in the green zone. Streaks will be restored after our Pencelli residential.

The children will be set homework every Monday - this could be either reading, grammar or maths. It is really important that you sit down with your child and go through their homework after they have completed it. We do mark homework as a class in school, but having your one-to-one support will really benefit your child. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the homework, please see one of us, as we expect homework to be completed and handed back in before the next Monday.

Diary dates will be on the school newsletter and posted on the website.

Please don't hesitate to come in and speak to us about any issues or if you would like more information about anything our door is always open.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Richards and Mrs Green