



Class 6 Spring 1 Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, what a fantastic first term we had! I hope you have all had a lovely time celebrating Christmas and the New Year. I think it is fair to say that last term was super busy, so I hope that the children have had a good rest and are now all ready and raring to return to school! I am so proud of their progress and hope to see this continue as we move on through the year. Our new theme this half-term is 'Australia and the Great Barrier Reef' and so this will be what much of our learning throughout the curriculum will be centred around.

The aim of this newsletter is to give you an insight into what we will be learning about this term in each curriculum area, as well as giving you any further key information, Please let me know if you have any further questions and remember that my door is always open. I am always very happy to help. 😊

On Tuesdays 10.45am – 3.40pm, I will spend time out of the classroom (PPA) and therefore the children will be taught by Mrs Tuxford.

SATs booster sessions

You should have all now received a message that **SATs booster sessions** are beginning next week (w/c 08.01.24). This message states which group your child is in.

Group 1: 3.40pm-4.40pm WEDNESDAY with Miss Farrell (in Yr 4 classroom).

Group 2: 3.40pm-4.40pm WEDNESDAY with Mrs Stocks (in TBC classroom).

Group 3: 3.40pm-4.40pm WEDNESDAY 10th with Miss Whittaker (in Yr6 classroom).

Group 4: 8.30am-9.00am WEDNESDAY with Mr Mac (in TBC classroom).

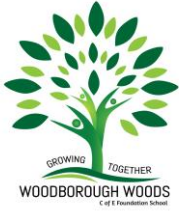
Group 5: 3.40pm-4.40pm WEDNESDAY with Mrs Tuxford (in TBC classroom).

The focus for these sessions will be on the **Maths** papers. The children will be given a 10-minute break and the opportunity to have snack and drink prior to the session starting.

Whilst I encourage all children to attend their designated session, I understand the children may have other commitments and therefore the sessions are very flexible so if children need to leave early if necessary that's ok. Also, if they're unable to attend all sessions that is understandable.

On **Thursdays**, I will be holding a **SPaG session after school** - this is available for to all Yr 6 children to attend. During this session, we will spend time together going through a range of SPaG style questions to ensure they feel confident at tackling them efficiently and accurately independently.

General information



On Wednesday 31st January 2024, we will be heading to 'The Deep' in Hull. More information regarding this will be made available over the next couple of weeks. Please can I politely remind you that payment for this is due Wednesday 10th January.

Could I also please take this opportunity to politely remind you that the initial deposit payment for the Hagg Farm residential is due Tuesday 9th January.

Please ensure that your child brings water in a labelled reusable drinks bottle and that they have a healthy snack for morning break and/or afternoon break. If they bring it in a snack pot, please ensure these are named. No crisps, chocolate, sweets or snacks containing nuts!

Please ensure sure all items of clothing - especially jumpers, cardigans and coats - are named.

SPELLINGS: Each Friday the children will be given a new list of ten spellings which they need to spend the week practicing ahead of their test on the following Friday. These will be differentiated according to the children's learning needs – your child will be told which group they are in. Please spend time practicing these as the children will be tested on them the following Friday. Spelling lists will be uploaded onto Viva Exchange. I strongly advise you to use Spelling Shed to practice! Logins are stuck in the back of the children's reading records. This can be downloaded from the App store for a one-off payment of £2.99 or for free via the web browser.

READING: It is expected that the children do at least four reads per week with an adult. I understand that by this age your child may be able to read independently but there is a massive benefit from reading with adults, so I encourage this as much as possible. You could ask them questions about the characters' feelings and actions and why they are doing things; you could tell them what words and phrases mean and even ask them to predict what might happen next! These are the kind of skills which the children need for comprehension tasks and assessments. Each time you read with your child at home, please record this in their reading record. I will be checking the four reads on a Friday. Can your child reach 100, 200 or even 300 reads before the end of the year?

HOMEWORK: To complement our theme for this half-term, I would like the children to focus and research one of Australia's biomes. Utilising this information, they need to create a shoe box diorama which represents their chosen biome. The children are welcome to be as creative as they wish! More information and examples are attached for inspiration! Your shoe box diorama needs to be brought into school on **Monday 5th February**. The children will then have time during the week to explore each other's dioramas. I will also arrange a time when parents are also welcome to come explore!

Additional homework tasks are posted on Viva Exchange. They are provided in order to complement and support learning which has taken place within the classroom that week.

Spellings, reading and times table practice is expected and compulsory each week.



PE: This half term PE sessions will be on a _____. One of these sessions will be delivered by our specialised PE coaches and the other by myself. Please could children with long hair bring bobbles, or preferably, have their hair tied back on these days. With earrings, if the children cannot remove them for themselves, could they kindly not wear them on PE days. If this is not possible, please could you send in tape/plasters for the children to wear over the earrings for the session.

Our topic for Spring 1 is 'Australia and the Great Barrier Reef'.

English (reading): Within our reading lessons this half-term, we will be focusing on the text 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. The lessons will provide opportunities for the children to develop their comprehension skills.

English (writing): Within these lessons this half-term, the children will be writing a non-chronological report with a purpose of informing. Discreet grammar and punctuations will be taught during the lessons building up to writing these.

Maths: Within our maths lessons, we will be following the White Rose Maths scheme. Key mathematical concepts covered this half-term include ratio, algebra and decimals. Children will also be given plenty of opportunities to develop their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Across the year, we will continue practicing our times tables to ensure that children know the multiplication and corresponding division facts up to 12x12 fluently. Times Table Rock Stars is a fantastic website which children can use to practice their times tables through fun games and challenges! Your child's password is stuck on the inside the front cover of their reading diary.

Science: In science this half term, the children will learn about variation and adaptation. They will explore how Charles Darwin developed his theory of evolution. They will also examine evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution.

Geography: Within our Geography lessons, we will be conducting an in-depth locational study on biomes and the ocean utilising technical geographical terminology with a more specific focus on Australia and the Great Barrier Reef.

RE: This half-term Class 6's RE topic is Exploring Muslim Families and Beliefs. The big question is 'What can we learn by reflecting on words of wisdom from religions and worldviews?' A key part of RE will be giving children the chance to reflect, pose and answer interesting and thoughtful questions.

PSHE: This half-term within PSHE we will be focusing on health and wellbeing. More specifically, we will be learning about relaxation through mindfulness, taking responsibility for our own health, the impact of technology, resilience and immunisation.

Art and Design: In art and design this half-term, the children will learn about the culture of the Australian Aborigines and explore the techniques used to create artwork telling dream time stories. They will design and create their own traditional dot paintings.



PE: One PE unit will be tennis. Time during these sessions will be spent teaching the children the knowledge and skills required to play tennis. The other PE unit taught will be OOA. Within these sessions children will be taught the knowledge and skills to successfully problem solve and navigate.

I hope that this letter has been informative and gives you an overview of what we are planning to do during Spring 1. Keep an eye out for further information on the whole school newsletters but please let me know if you have any further questions and I will be more than happy to help.

Kind regards,

Miss Whittaker