



Greenfield Primary School

Excellence and Enjoyment for All

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Dear Parents/carers

I hope you enjoyed the summer holidays and are ready for the first term of the year. Year 6 is a great year: we get to see the children make so much progress, challenge themselves in lots of different ways and really enjoy being the oldest in the school and all the exciting opportunities that brings. We also expect them to rise to these challenges, work hard, improve their independence and become responsible role models to the rest of the school, ready for their transition to secondary school. We've got a fun; action-packed year planned and are looking forward to helping and supporting your children to reach their full potential.

Here's a quick overview of the subjects and topics that will be taught in Year 6 (Oak Class) over the next term and some information regarding homework and PE. I hope you find this useful and that it enables you to discuss and research the topics that your child will be studying at home together. If you want further information, then take a look at our class page.

Maths

The majority of work we do in maths relies heavily on being able to recall key number facts and use these to solve problems with larger numbers. Much of the maths we do also relies on being able to spot times table facts, so lots of extra work on these at home using TT Rockstars, Hit the Button and Maths Shed would be great. In class we will be studying the following unit of work:

1st half term

- Place value, including rounding and negative numbers
- Formal addition and subtraction (column method) and using this in problem solving and reasoning questions
- Long multiplication and short division (bus stop method) again using this in problem solving and reasoning questions
- Adding and subtracting fractions (including where a common denominator is needed to be found)
- Comparing fractions including equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions²

2nd half term

- Multiplying and dividing fractions – both by whole numbers and fractions
- Decimals
- Measurements – converting units (multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000)

English

This first term we will be focusing on recapping and embedding some key English skills and language. This will include:

- Handwriting – we will be focusing heavily on presentation of work, speed and fluency as the expectation in quantity of writing increases in year 6, also children **cannot** achieve the expected level in writing if they don't show that they can write in a fluent cursive style when needed.
- Spelling – in these sessions, children will explore and learn spelling rules and patterns. We will also look at a lot of the GSP (Spelling Punctuation and Grammar) objectives in these sessions too.
- Using a large variety of punctuation. Children are expected to be confident at using punctuation within a sentence by the end of year 6 so pointing out how commas, speech marks (inverted commas), brackets, dashes, hyphens, colons and semi-colons are used when reading would be really useful.



- Grammar – identifying different word types, clauses and phrases and using the correct tense.
- Sentence Structures- this is going to be a huge focus point throughout the year, where we will begin each lesson with some work on how sentences are structured and allow the children to explore sentences and vocabulary in more detail.

Our first-class novel will be ‘Wonder’ written by R.J Palacio. This is a really touching novel which deals with the issues that a young boy with Teacher Collins syndrome faces. I’m hoping to watch the film as a class once we’ve read the book (**This is a PG film so please contact school if you DO NOT wish your child to watch it**).

The genres of writing covered this term will include **character and setting descriptions, instructions, explanation texts, diary writing, non-chronological report, balanced argument, formal letter, blog and a Christmas Narrative.**

Topics – History & Geography

During the first half term, we will be delving into the ancient civilization of the Maya by exploring the Big Question, ‘Why were the Maya a marvel?’ We will be exploring where the Maya civilization is located on maps, the number, writing and calendar systems and how they compare to ours today, who the Mayan people worshipped, what the architecture was like and how the society was formed.

The second half term will focus on the Big Question, ‘Where does our food come from?’ We will be focusing on Brazil and comparing Brazil’s climate to the UKs. We will be learning about biomes, weather patterns, food production, fair trade, importation and exportation of food.

Science

During the first half term we will be looking at ‘Living things and their habitats’.

During the second half term we will be looking at ‘Electricity’.

Other subjects

We will use ICT as an integral part of lessons in the classroom and plan to make good use of the iPads in school. We will also teach ICT explicitly. We will begin a six-week topic focusing on computer systems and networks. During Autumn 2, we will move on to ‘creating media.’

Spanish will be taught weekly starting the year revising key vocab on greetings, numbers, seasons and dates and then move onto the topics on sports & hobbies and appearance.

PSHE will be taught weekly beginning with the SCARF topics of ‘Me and My Relationships’ and ‘Valuing Difference’. We will also discuss other aspects of PSHE, relating to school rules, expected behaviours, British Values and protected characteristics.

RE will focus on the key questions: ‘How does faith enable resilience’ and ‘Why do Christians believe that Jesus is a Messiah?’ We will also be working on the Posada around Christmas time linking with the local schools.

PE – This year children are to come to school in full PE kit on their class’s PE days – Our days this term are Monday and Friday.

Children in year 5&6 who have not yet reached the level expected in swimming or who are less confident swimmers will be swimming this term (a ParentMail will be sent if your child is to attend swimming). This will start Monday 9th September. Please ensure swimming kits are in school each Monday and that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the walk to the swimming baths (coats and footwear). The children not swimming will be doing Dance with the Oldham Sport development Dance teacher. We will also have a PE session taught by Oldham Sports Development on **Fridays** which will mainly be taught outside so please ensure your child is wearing a suitable PE kit.

Art & Design and Design and Technology will be incorporated into our topic sessions as well as teaching stand-alone lessons which develop specific skills. Our main Art focus this term is to design and make a Mayan mask, and our main DT focus this term is to design and create a working alarm system. The DT unit will link closely with our work in Science on Electricity.

Homework - children are expected to complete 2 ½ hours of homework per week when in year 6 (half an hour a night)

Some homework will be online whilst other work will be sent home on paper, this may include:

- **Online**
 - **TT Rock Stars** - Regularly learning of times tables up to 12x12 - *play on TT Rock Stars as often as possible,*
 - **Math's Shed** – revision of key number skills or online arithmetic tests. *You can also play on here as often as you like but you will also be set challenges on here too.*
 - **Spelling Shed** - Practicing any spellings sent home – these will be linked to the pattern or rule explored in class and will be added to Spelling Shed each **Friday** as well as a printed copy sent home. Spellings will be tested the following **Friday**. *Again, play the games as often as possible.*
- **Reading** – children should be reading regularly, every day if possible. This doesn't have to be out loud to an adult, just finding time to enjoy a book by themselves is great.
 - *Please make ensure your child records all the reading they do at home. This can be the book they bring home from school, books they're enjoying at home or even magazines, news articles they've read and books they're listening to or reading online. Please ensure these reading records are brought into school every Thursday so we can keep track of what your child is reading. They can bring in finished books to change at any time.*
- **Paper Homework** - We will also be sending home lots of short 10-15 minute arithmetic, reasoning, GPS and reading tests/activities to be completed and returned to school in preparation for the types of questions your child will be expected to do in the SATs tests.
- **Sentences book** – Your child will again be asked to write a number of sentences this year as part of their homework. This homework is to give your child addition practice at forming coherent and correctly punctuated sentences. They will be asked to use their spellings in these sentences along with writing sentences that revise, and recap grammar skills learnt in class. Please ensure that you discuss and proofread these sentences with your child and that they are written neatly in joined handwriting.

Homework will be set on Friday and should be completed and handed in to school no later than the following Thursday.

SATS – We will be completing Baseline SATs after a few weeks of settling in. We will then complete another set in December to check on progress and identify gaps in learning. All results will be shared, and score explained. These MOCK tests are a great opportunity for your child to experience these tests under similar conditions to the real tests, become familiar with the type and style of questioning, practice working with in the time restraints given and build their confidence as they see their scores progressing. The official SATS tests will be taken on the week beginning Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May, and we then go to Robinwood on Friday 16th May 2025.

Please also remember that **only fruit or vegetables** should be brought in for anyone wanting a snack at breaktime and water bottles should be taken home each night, cleaned, refilled (with water only) and returned to school the following day.

We know this is a lot of information but year 6 is such an important year for preparing your children for secondary school and the responsibilities which come with that. It's a really good time to get your children used to managing their workload in a familiar environment. I hope that this information will be useful in supporting your child this coming term. If you need anything then we're only a phone call away so if ever you have any issues or concerns or just want a bit of advice on how you can best help your child, then give the school office a ring to make an appointment with them for us to give you a call back.

And remember to keep an eye on our website, especially our class page! Here's looking forward to a successful school year together! Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely