

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 5 and 6 Spring Term Newsletter 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Children in years 5 and 6,

We would like to wish you a warm welcome back to a new year, hoping that 2018 is a successful and healthy year ahead. This newsletter gives a brief outline of the topics for the spring terms 3 and 4, along with additional information which you may find useful.

As Year 5 and 6 teachers, we are looking forward to the coming terms ahead with your child. They will be fast-paced, creative and challenging, hence we are grateful for all the support that you can give your child at home to support our teaching.

How Can You Help Your Child?



Please make sure your child arrives in school by 8:45am when their first learning activity begins, registration is at 8:55am. We ask that you telephone the office if your child is not well enough to come to school at the earliest opportunity. Our morning lessons do begin promptly at 8.45am, so prompt arrival does help your child to have a smooth and organised start to their day ready to learn.

We ask your child to continue wearing our school uniform with pride. A full uniform list is available on our school web-site www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or if you are unsure please do speak to your child's class teacher. All items of school uniform should be clearly named. We would also request that children wear black shoes and not trainers to school. Earrings are permitted, but must be small plain studs please, that are removed for P.E.

Please continue to help your child be organised for Physical Education; make sure they always have a PE kit in school (this should consist of a plain white t-shirt, plain dark shorts, plain dark joggers and plimsolls or trainers). We are also more than happy for the children to wear extra layers during the colder months for PE lessons outside. Children with pierced ears will need to remove earrings when taking part in PE lessons; this can be done either at school or at home beforehand. If you are considering having ears pierced, please may we suggest that this is left until the longer summer break.

Also as a reminder, we are proud to have been awarded 'Healthy School' status—we encourage parents to pack a healthy lunchbox for their child and we discourage: chocolate, sweets or crisps. We also encourage children to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times as well as a water-bottle with a sports-cap lid, which can be filled from our water dispensers during the day.



Homework and Reading

Homework will be set on a regular basis. This will normally consist of: weekly spellings, a weekly maths piece and a piece of topic or English homework. Times tables should also be learnt and practised daily, alongside reading at home for 10 – 15 minutes each day please. This year, all teachers are particularly trying to encourage our classes to promote reading for pleasure as a life-long skill. The children are encouraged to take part in Buster's Book Club every Wednesday evening for the chance to win the coveted class trophy. The target reading time for years 5 and 6 is 20 minutes, however, children can read for longer if they wish to exceed the target and give their class a greater chance of winning!

Following feedback from parents, we have provided lists of recommended texts for each year group that are set at the expected year group standards. These can be found under English on the school's website.

Topics and Learning

All children will work hard on their maths, English and reading skills each morning. The afternoons will consist of topic based activities:

Year 5:

Topic: Vikings

Science: Properties and changes in materials

PSHCE: Me and my healthy lifestyle

Music: Learning to play the Ukulele

RE: Islam

PE: Gymnastics and invasion games (football and hockey)

Year 6:

Topic: WW2

Science: Light

PSHCE: Me and my healthy lifestyle

Music: WW2 music

RE: Judaism

PE: Rugby and tactical games

Targets



There are new layered targets for maths, reading, writing and science in each class to encourage the children to continue to move forward, ensuring they make the progress expected of them. These targets are also positioned on the front of the children's books for continued reference. Children now know their new targets for term 3 and will be constantly working towards achieving these. Please do take the time to discuss these with your child.

Important Dates



These are some of the key dates for the term:

Thursday 4th January: Term 3 begins

Friday 2nd February: Young Voices at the 02-school choir

Tuesday 6th February: Year 5 parent workshop afternoon

Thursday 8th February: End of term 3

Friday 9th February: INSET day

Monday 19th February: Term 4 begins

Thursday 1st March: Year 6 secondary school places confirmed

Thursday 15th March: Year 6 to accept or decline school places by this date at the latest

Tuesday 20th March: Year 5 trip – Viking Day at the Museum of Kent Life

Friday 23rd March: School reports sent home

Wednesday 28th March: Parents evening 2:30pm onwards

Monday 26th March – Thursday 29th March: Year 6 residential trip to Swattenden

Thursday 29th March: End of term 4

Clubs

During the coming terms, there will be a variety of both after school and lunchtime clubs available for your child to attend. Please do encourage your child to attend clubs that are of interest to them. Miss Tanner in our school office is keen to keep parents updated with an up-to-date timetable for the coming terms. We are also pleased to be continuing the year 6 homework club with Mrs Greenfield and Mrs White on Mondays after school as well.

Finally, if you have any questions about your child's education please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs D Pegden – Assistant Head Teacher and Upper Key Stage Two Department Leader.