

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 5 and 6 Autumn Term Newsletter 2015

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

We would like to wish you a warm welcome back to a new academic year, hoping that the year ahead is a successful one. This newsletter gives a brief outline of the topics for the autumn terms 1 and 2 along with additional information that you may find useful.

The department teaching staff for this academic year are: - Mrs E Greenfield, Mrs D Pegden, Mr R Bentley, Miss T Jenkins and Miss N Subramaniam. We are complimented with a strong set of teaching assistants as well: - Year 6 - Mrs C Ray, Mrs C Brookman, Mrs R Scott, Mrs J Cook, Mrs L Taylor and Miss S Coleman. Year 5 – Mrs S Cook, Mrs K Barker, Miss C Newing, Mrs W Broad, Mrs L Munday, Mrs M Scott and Mr Pressley.

As Year 5 and 6 teachers, we are looking forward to the year ahead with your child and we hope that you will find this newsletter helpful. The upper school is a fast-paced and challenging department and we are grateful for all the support that you give your child at home.



How Can You Help Your Child?

Please make sure your child arrives in school by 8:45am for registration at 8:55am. Please telephone the office if your child is not well enough to come to school at the earliest opportunity.

We like all children to wear 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 plain black shoes and not trainers to school. Earrings are permitted, but must be small plain studs please.

Help your child to 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. 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.

Help your child to: learn and practice their times tables daily, read daily using a broad variety of texts, learn any spellings sent home and complete both maths and topic homework sent home.

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. The children are encouraged to bring in a water-bottle with a sports-cap lid, which can be filled from our water dispensers during the day.

Homework



Homework will be set on a regular basis. This will normally consist of: weekly spellings, a weekly maths piece and either a piece of topic based homework (normally over two weeks) or an English activity. Times tables should also be learnt and practised daily.



Topics and Learning

All children will work hard on their maths, English and reading skills each morning. Maths will be taught in classes in year 6 and 3 smaller sized parallel maths classes in year 5; Mr Cope will be teaching the third maths group each day. The afternoons will consist of topic based activities and the other National Curriculum subjects.

Year 5 –

Topic: Anglo Saxons

Science: Forces

PSHCE: Me and Keeping Safe

Music: Learning to play the ukulele

RE: Christianity

PE: Swimming will be every Tuesday at Hartsdown and outdoor adventurous activities as outdoor PE.

Year 6 –

Topic: World War One

Science: Electricity

PSHCE: Me and Keeping Safe

Music: War time music

RE: Christianity

PE: Golf and outdoor adventurous activities.

If you have any resources or expertise in any of these areas please let us know so that we can enrich the pupils' learning experiences further.

Targets



There are layered targets for maths, reading, writing and science in each class to encourage the children to continue to move forward and ensure they make the progress expected of them. Children should know their targets and be constantly working towards achieving them. These will also be shared with you during our parent evenings.



Important Dates

This is quite a busy term for us all, so please take the time to read the letters that are brought home with the important dates on. These are some of the dates for the term, others will also follow:

10th September – Year 6 Kent test for those children who have entered the test.

16th September – Year 6 information evening on the secondary school application process at 5.30 KS2 hall.

21st September – Parent Information afternoon in class 6B for years 5 and 6 parents/carers at 2pm.

14th October – Kent test results by email and posted to parents.

21st October – Years 5 and 6 talk on wearing a cycle helmet for safety.

23rd October – Last day of term 1.

3rd November – Year 5 PCSO visitor – internet safety.

11th November – Parent evening 2.45 – 7.30.

16th November – Anti bullying week in school.

14th December – Christmas party week. (Christmas details will be finalised nearer the time).

18th December – Last day term 2.

Year 6 - Secondary school open day dates are now also available on the individual school websites, so please do take the time to visit a variety of schools with your child once you have the dates confirmed. These are normally throughout September and October, with the closing date for online applications being the **31st October**.

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

Mrs D Pegden – Upper key stage two department leader.