



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 5 and 6 Newsletter

Terms 3 and 4

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 2020 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 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 you can help your child

Uniform

The children have all returned to school looking lovely and smart; we would like all of the children to continue to take pride in their school uniform. 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.

There have recently been incidents of lost items of uniform, so please ensure that all items of school uniform are clearly named to enable us to return any lost clothing to the right child. All items of lost property can be found outside the medical room.

PE

In the winter months, please continue to help your children to be organised for PE by making sure that they always have a PE kit in school. This should consist of their house team T-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls for indoor PE; trainers for outdoor PE. Dark coloured joggers and sweatshirts can be worn for outdoor PE during the winter months, as we will continue to take the children outdoors wherever possible. The year 6 PE clothing will please continue to be worn on Fridays – this is working well. 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.

Homework

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. All children in the department have also been given a homework diary, this should help to inform you when any homework is being set by the class teachers.

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! The children do really enjoy finding out which class has won the trophy, so please support your child with this and do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

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.



Packed Lunch

We are proud to have been awarded 'Healthy School' status—we therefore encourage parents to pack a healthy lunchbox for their child and we discourage chocolate and crisps. The children are also encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times, along with a water bottle each day that can also be re-filled throughout the day as well at school. Principals, our school catering company, are offering some new options as part of their school hot lunch menu. The children are able to visit the salad and healthy option bar, where they may choose additional side dishes to compliment their dinner. This has proved very popular with our children.



Topics and Learning
Years 5 and 6 Topics for Terms 3 and 4:

Year 5	Year 6
GEOGRAPHY - USA	HISTORY- The Ancient Maya
SCIENCE- Earth & Space	SCIENCE- Term 3 - Light. Term 4 - Human systems
R.E- If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?	R.E- Different religious arts and architecture.
PSHCE- Me and a healthy lifestyle	PSHCE- Me and making a positive contribution
MUSIC- Learning to play the ukulele	Music- Mayan music & rhythms
PE- Invasion games & sports leadership skills	PE- Invasion games & attack and defence skills

Targets

All of the children have been given new targets for maths, reading, writing and science to ensure that they continue to move forward and make the progress expected of them. These are displayed in the classroom and on the front of children's books, so the children should know their targets and be constantly working towards achieving them in terms 3 and 4. Please do take the time to discuss these with your child and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries regarding them.



Clubs

We have been pleased to see a number of children taking advantage of the wide variety of after school clubs that are offered at the school. During the coming terms, please encourage your children to attend clubs that may be of interest to them and please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Verrall in the school office if you have any other queries. We are also pleased to inform you that the children get the opportunity to take part in a variety of clubs and activities at lunchtime, which continue to be very popular.

Important Dates

Please take the time to check with your child each day to see if they have been given any letters.

Key dates for your diary:

Friday 24th January: Young Voices at the 02-school choir

Thursday 13th February: End of term 3

Friday 14th February: INSET day

Monday 24th February: Term 4 begins

Monday 2nd March: Year 6 secondary school places confirmed

Monday 16th March: Year 6 to accept or decline school places by this date at the latest

Friday 27th March: Annual Pupil Reports to parents. Term 4 data to parents

Tuesday 31st March: Parents evening 2:30pm onwards.

Wednesday 1st April: End of term 4



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

We all look forward to the successful terms ahead and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs D. Pegden

Assistant Headteacher and UKS2 Department Leader