



WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 2

Year 6

Welcome

I hope you have all had a good half-term. The children definitely deserved a rest after their busy first term in year 6. They have worked hard at their learning and carried out their whole-school responsibilities well. A particular favourite with the class was being lunchtime buddies for the reception children, helping to make sure the younger children found their way back to their classroom, found their coat, and made it onto the playgrounds after eating in the hall.

Another event worthy of note were the School Council speeches presented by the children. All the children were confident and clear in their presentations, and very brave speaking out in front of year 6 and the younger classes too. Well done to those who were elected, and well done to everyone who read out their speech.

Maths & English

Last term we had a practise SATs week, carrying out the tests in full SATs test conditions. This has identified the areas that we need to work on this term, as well as helping to set up interventions for individuals or small groups.

The test papers will be sent home shortly after the half-term, so that you can see how your child is doing in their SATs preparation.

It would really help this preparation if you could spend some time going through these papers with your child, and help them to see where they went wrong. Sometimes it may be a mathematical concept that needs a bit of help. Often it's not quite understanding what the question is asking or misreading the question.

Spellings are an area where many children have gaps, so please continue to support your children learning the weekly lists that are sent home.

Dates and Things to Remember

Year 6 continue to have a whole afternoon of P.E. on Fridays. This session is taught by Mr Stoneman. Please can children keep their PE kits in their lockers throughout the week so that they do not miss out on this important lesson.

It would be helpful if the children could also keep an old shirt (with long sleeves) at school to protect their school uniform when painting etc.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Thursday and needs to be handed in on a Tuesday. Spelling tests will take place on a Thursday. Completion of homework is essential for success in year 6.

The homework that we set is designed to secure their understanding of the topics covered in lessons. We will continue with a focus on *reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar*, and *maths*.

There are lists of 'expected' spellings for the different phases in a primary school (we call the year 3/4 spellings the 'Silver List' and the year 5/6 spellings the 'Gold List'). SATs spellings are based on these expectations. Therefore, year 6 focus on these lists and send home personalised spellings for each child related to their own gaps. Please look out for these, and ensure your child is learning them at home as a spelling from these lists is reissued each week until it is learned.

Topic

We continue with our history topic this term learning about Ancient Egypt. The children have really enjoyed this topic so far, learning about mummification (mummifying their own banana) and the hunt for Tutankhamun's tomb. Full details can be found in the Knowledge Organiser.

Science was a particular hit last term. The children enjoyed learning about micro-organisms and experimenting with mould and mushroom spores. I'm sure they will enjoy the upcoming work on electricity.

Our Value for this month is: Forgiveness

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