



## Year 6 Spring Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. We are fast approaching the impending SATS, as such I would like to share some information with you about this term including important dates and information about the curriculum content, we will be covering during the Spring Term.

Your continued support throughout this year is key and I thank you in advance for it.

As a reminder, please make sure you have downloaded the school app and the Family Seesaw app. As a school we are trying to minimize paper usage in order to reduce our footprint on the environment, but also to reduce costing as school budgets are ever decreasing. You can keep track of both your child's work and have easy access to a communication to teachers via this app.

### Weekly Events:

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| <b>Monday</b>    | Spellings Basic Skills Lesson 8:55AM  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Grammar Basic Skills Lesson 8:55AM  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Comprehension Basic Skills Lesson 8:55AM  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Whole Class Reading Basic Skills Lesson 8:55AM  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Whole Class Reading Basic Skills Lesson 8:55AM<br>+ PE 10:30am-11:20am<br>– A full school PE kit will be needed |

**After-school Booster Sessions:** Covid permitting, we will be continuing to run after-school booster sessions for pupils who have been invited. We will be changing the groups often and aim to have every child in a booster group throughout the year. If your child is invited then attendance is mandatory. The sessions will run until 4:15 and will usually start with an interactive game to start the session and help pupils focus, before building into a section of revisiting prior learning to ensure all learning has been embedded. Over years of experience, it is clear that structuring sessions in this way provides stronger learning for the pupils.

**Homework:** Children will usually be given three pieces of homework per week, as per our school's policy. The homework will consist of: one Maths activity; one English activity; and one activity from the extended curriculum. It is intended to cement learning which has taken place within the classroom. If your child struggles with the work set, please do not hesitate to let me know and I will gladly offer extra support. Homework will be issued through SeeSaw, so regular checking will ensure your child excels. If your child does not complete the issued homework for the due date, then they may have to stay in during a playtime to complete it – this will ensure that learning is embedded. For further support on what is expected, please visit the 'Parents' section of our school website.

**Reading:** The children have each been given a reading day when they will need to bring in and/or change their books. It is very useful for the children to have their book bags in school every day for carrying letters and other items. It would be advantageous if you can read on a regular basis with your child at home - 10 minutes a day can make a great difference when it comes to the SATs.

**English:** The children will continue to cover a wide range of new spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG) that will develop and improve their writing ability. This term we will continue to focus on several text types and beginning to develop a well-rounded style of mature writing. As I

mentioned to a lot of you at our Parent/Carer meetings, we are building an evidence base of high-quality writing for each pupil – this term is important in building more evidence to fully show your child’s ability. We will also have a predominant focus on SPAG, specifically spellings as this is a particular weakness of our class. We will have a large focus on developing your child’s comprehension skills, preparing them for the end of year SATs.

**Handwriting:** As mentioned to several parents/carers, handwriting will continue to be a large focus of writing. This term especially. We work hard in class to emphasize handwriting to the children, please build on this at home too.

**Maths:** Throughout the course of this half term we will be revisiting previously taught topics, to ensure that prior learning is continuously embedded. The children have learned about place value of numbers up to 10 digits (including decimal values), four operations and fractions. To help, you should revise this with them at home.

The children need to practice their times tables; to learn them off by heart as soon as possible will dramatically help their progress. *Times table knowledge is a year 4 skill, and should be treated with highest priority.*

This term we are learning about: ratio, algebra, unit conversion, perimeter, area, and volume.

**Science:** This term we will be looking at the topic of ‘Living things in their habitat’ and ‘Light’.

**Computing:** This term we will be ‘Program for An Audience’ using Scratch 3.0. We will also be planning and composing music by making a simple podcast later in the Spring term.

**Geography:** We will be looking at our new topic of “North West V The Mediterranean”. In this topic we will be understanding, comparing and contrasting different climates and areas of the world.

**History:** Pupils will be looking at how a settlement has grown over a set period of time. This topic will be linked to their Geography topic. We will be going on a retrospective trip to Western Approaches to revisit and consolidate prior learning.

**RE:** Our RE question this half term is “Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity.

**Art & DT:** The children will be studying the topic of ‘Art From Other Cultures’. They will also produce artwork linked to the topics of RE, Geography and History. In DT we will be making food linked to our Geography topic.

**Useful Vocabulary** – If you can discuss these with your child at home, it’ll really accelerate their learning this year.

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|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| Art       | Aboriginal, ‘Dreaming’ painting, Common / key features, Scratch paper, Traditional, Motif, Cartridge paper, Criteria, Assess, Blue Willow, Inspiration, Combine, Symbolism, Form, Invent, Hatching, Shading, Cut-outs, Block-fill, Foreground / middle ground / background, Overlap, Dominant light source, Earthy / gritty, Gentle / calm, Intense / alive. | SPAG      | Past tense, present tense, future tense, adverbials, subjunctive form, coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions.           |
| Music     | Timbre, Pitch, Structure, Pulse, Beat, Dynamics, Melody, Duration, Tempo, Texture, Rhythm, Harmony, Treble, Bass.  | Computing | Algorithm, abstraction, decomposition, logic, sequence, variable, input, output, debug, operators, loops, timeline, crop, split, layer. |
| RE        | Art, worship, sculpture  | Science   |   |
| Geography | Mediterranean, Economy, Climate, Push/Pull Factors, Tourism, Urbanisation, Region, Province, Comparison, Trade Links.  | Maths     | Ratio, proportion, portion, share, equal, area, length, width, perimeter, volume.   |

At the end of this year, usually the first week or two or May, the pupils will complete their Standard Attainment Tests, SATS. Due to the ever-increasing demands placed upon children, it is vital that we can rely on your support throughout the year, working together to ensure your child

achieves the best possible result. By starting early, it will really help ease pressure later in the year.

If you have not already, then download and sign-up for the SeeSaw app. Thank you to those who have already downloaded it and been in contact when needed. I have enabled comments and likes on there for parents – I encourage you to like and comment on children's work.

Please follow our twitter @C6Pleasant for regular updates on our lessons throughout the day. Parental engagement via Seesaw and Twitter will help your child know the work they are doing in school is widely praised and valuable to them.

I may also call home to express positive news about your children's work ethic or progress – so I look forward to sharing this with you. If you are unavailable when I call, I will leave a message, there is no need to return the phone call – if you would like to discuss it further then please message me via Seesaw or request a return call via Seesaw again.

Thank you for your support,

Mr M Lancaster

@C6 Pleasant @PleasantStPrim