

# Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

## Autumn Term 2019

### Year 6

Welcome to  
Year 6

Light and  
Electricity



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Djembe

The  
Americas

WW2

| <b>P6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>HT6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>M6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Mrs Platt</b><br/>Class Teacher<br/>Monday - Wednesday</p> <p><b>Mrs Phillips</b><br/>Class Teacher<br/>Wednesday -Friday</p> <p><b>Ms Mills</b><br/>Teaching Assistant every<br/>morning</p> | <p><b>Mrs Thompson</b><br/>Class Teacher<br/>Monday - Wednesday</p> <p><b>Mrs Harrison</b><br/>Class Teacher<br/>Thursday - Friday</p> <p><b>Mrs Hutchinson</b><br/>Teaching Assistant every<br/>morning</p> | <p><b>Mrs Mather</b><br/>Class Teacher</p> <p>Monday - Thursday<br/>Mornings only - to teach<br/>English and Maths (w/c<br/>30.9.19)</p> <p>(This provision will stop<br/>after SATs)</p> |

## **Hello and welcome to Year 6,**

We hope that you find all the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any further questions about the term ahead, please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to talk to you.

There are a few things that you can do to help us:

- Please ensure that your child brings their reading record and reading book to school every day and that they have noted down their daily reading. Please also try to hear your child read daily and read to them too - so much can be gained from modelled reading. Please also write in the reading record when you have read to your child and sign the record daily to show you have checked your child has read. In secondary school, the children have a homework diary which has to be signed each week by a parent, so we are trying to use our reading record in a similar way as preparation for next year.
- Please ensure that your child's clothing (cardigans and jumpers in particular) are all named.
- Please feel free to support your child with their homework and do not hesitate to let us know if your child struggles with something in particular (a note on the actual piece of homework, or in their reading record is fine).

Thank you!

## Daily Routines

We encourage each child to learn and follow simple daily routines, in order to make them independent and responsible for their own belongings. It would be an enormous help to the staff, and your child, if you could support this by doing the following:

- Dropping your child off promptly at the KS2 waiting area every morning, allowing them to walk into school ready for their day's learning.
- Giving your child a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat at break time. Please remember that our school policy is fresh fruit and vegetables only.
- Labelling all belongings including clothes, PE kits and shoes.
- Ensuring your child has their PE kit in school every day. Children must take earrings out for PE. However, if a child cannot do this, then please provide tape in their kits for them to be covered.
- Ensuring your child has their book-bag, lunch box (if they need one) and water bottle (water only please) with them in the morning.
- Wait for your child at the end of each day inside the KS2 waiting area.

**Please do not wait on the road. Please remind your child that if for any reason they cannot find you after school they must go straight to the school office.**

**Year 6 are following the National Curriculum. Our topics for this term:**

## English

Literacy lessons will continue on a daily basis. We will be studying a range of literacy genres including:

- Reports - text: Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastical World Around You.
- Action story (spy thriller) - texts: Alex Rider stories.
- Poetry - personification and Autumn poems.
- Stories with a historical nature (we will look at a story based on the Suffragettes and create our own stories, including a flashback) - text: Maggie's Window.
- Christmas text, focussing on Year 6 grammar - text: Santa's Trap

We will aim to develop the children's ability in narrative and non-narrative writing, helping them to secure the basic conventions of written English, encouraging correct usage of punctuation and spelling. In addition to this, sentence structure and grammar will also be developed so that the children's writing starts to become more sophisticated. Over the last couple of years there has been greater emphasis on the correct use of grammar, punctuation and spelling, as well as children knowing the correct terminology. All this will be taught in our lessons and through other areas of the curriculum. To help you help your child at home we will loan the children a book which explains the grammar concepts very clearly (this book must be returned after SATs). Please help your children learn the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 key spelling words. Reading forms a key part to learning - please read to your child each week, as well as listening to your child read daily.



In addition to this, have a look at our school website, in the Year 6 section, for other ideas on how to support your child. Here is another useful site:

[www.woodlandsjunior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy2](http://www.woodlandsjunior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy2)

All children have a PurpleMash Login too - this is a site has a vast range of curriculum and computing resources.

## **Maths**

As in previous years, the daily maths lesson will include a balance of mental and written activities and will encourage the children to apply the skills they are learning. The topics covered will include number, shape, data handling, area and fractions. **A good working knowledge of times tables is essential.** Please help your child to both learn these and be able to use them quickly. Mental arithmetic homework will continue as usual and is marked in school on a Monday (this may differ for M6).

For more information about what your children will be learning in maths throughout the year please visit our website [www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk](http://www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk). You can also find a useful vocabulary list, some games you might wish to play with your child and a document outlining the progression of written methods in mathematics.

## **Science**

This term our topics will be: Let it Shine and Electrifying!

Our Let it Shine topic introduces the concept of light travelling in straight lines. We will start by looking at beams of light and how light travels, to enable the children to understand how we see things. This understanding is then applied to the production of shadows and begins to look at how light is reflected. The topic then takes the learning into the realm of coloured light and rainbows, using scientific skills to raise and answer questions.



During our Electrifying unit we build on the Year 4 work on electricity, taking it into the scientific use of symbols for components in a circuit as well as considering the effect in more detail of changing components in a circuit.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index\\_flash.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index_flash.shtml)

We will also be continuing our links with Monk's Walk School by taking the children for four practical science sessions this term.

## **RE**

Our topics this term are: Creation, Questions, Christmas and Incarnation.

During these lessons the children will learn that there are questions to which there are no universally agreed answers and consider these for themselves - using understanding of several world faiths. For our 'Christmas' lessons the children will learn about the story of Christmas, (including the idea of Jesus being the 'word incarnate') in preparation for their Christmas service in church.

## **Computing**

Computing is used regularly across the curriculum, focussing heavily on e-safety. After this, we will look at coding - the children will use coding to develop a game.

We are now using a computing scheme called 'Purple Mash'. The children have their own log-in details and can access the site at home: they can share their learning with you and develop tasks started in school. They can also use any of the other resources available like maths games and spelling activities.

### **Geography / History**

In geography, we will be finding out about North, South and Central America. This study will link to our summer history topic about the Mayan people of Central America.

After half-term we will begin our topic about 'World War Two'. We will be looking at the decades within this period and will make special reference to the effects of World War 2 on society today. We will be studying, particularly, the lifestyle of children and how they were affected by the war so now is the time to search your (or grandparents) attics for any artefacts we could borrow for our class museum e.g. old school-books, I.D. cards and school photos. A useful website - The Imperial War Museum [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk). In addition to this, the children will be visiting Hendon Museum as a school trip this term - details to follow shortly.

### **Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)**

This year, we are using a scheme in line with the new curriculum for PSHE and will be looking at the following topics:

- Being me in my world
- Celebrating Difference

Dairy date: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November - Legal Eagles workshop which involves a team of Magistrates coming in to visit the children and a court room role-play. This is a fantastic morning for all of year 6.

### **Art**

Our art theme for this term will be linked to our topic work - World War 2. In addition to this, the children will look at people in motion and study the artist, Lowry (considering perspective). We will also carry out a number of Christmas art activities, including the PTFA Christmas cards.

**Design and Technology** - This term we will mainly focus on art. Next term, we will look at 'Bridges'.

### **French**

In French our topic is L'argent de poche (Pocket Money) Children will continue to gain confidence in manipulating numbers and learn further expressions for likes and dislikes. They begin to learn about the euro. They prepare and perform an advertisement for a toy. Our second topic is Raconte-moi une histoire (Tell me a story). Children will work on sounds and spellings and continue to gain confidence in manipulating numbers, learning multiples of 10 to 100. They learn some common adjectives, revise how to make simple feminine agreements and give instructions. The topic is based on the story of Sleeping Beauty. Please help your child to practice their French by encouraging them to share the vocabulary they have learnt in lessons. We would like to continue offering the children in Year 6 the opportunity to read in

French and would ask you to contact us, via the office, if you are a French speaker and feel able to help ideally for an hour on a Friday afternoon.

### Music

In music, we will be studying complex rhythms using Djembe drums; learning songs for Christmas and in line with the National Curriculum, we will be learning about different musical eras, focusing on the works of composers from each period.

### Homework

This term we will be sending homework as follows:

- **Reading** please ensure that your child continues to read at home every evening for at least 10 minutes and that they complete their Reading Record book by commenting daily. It is also beneficial to hear your child read daily and for them to be read to.
- **Spellings/Literacy** - The children have been taught to practise spellings using the 'look, say, cover, write, check,' method and other spelling strategies. In class, we will also be revising and consolidating spelling rules. Homework will go out on a Friday and is due in on the Thursday (Friday for M6) of the following week. See the weekly spelling sheet for the homework task each week.
- **Maths** homework will be in the form of the Mental Maths book and must be in school for marking every **Monday** morning (M6 may differ). We will mark their books together and it is expected that the children complete any corrections at home. However, please encourage your child to ask their teacher for further clarification, if they do not understand a question.
- **Curriculum based homework** - during this term the children may be given topic related homework instead of one long term project. This will help us support the new National Curriculum and further prepare your child for secondary school.

### Ways to help your child in Year 6

- ☺ Read with your child daily.
- ☺ Support them with their homework. Allocate a time and a quiet space for homework.
- ☺ Use the school website (Year 6 class section) for resources.
- ☺ Help your child develop their mental maths - see our Basic Essential List on the school website
- ☺ Encourage your child to come to school prepared for the day ahead with a pencil, blue pen (not biro), green pen, ruler, rubber, glue stick and any homework needed for that day.
- ☺ Ensure PE kit is in school every day.
- ☺ Talk to your child about the topics we are covering in school.

## **WEEKLY ARRANGEMENTS - TERM 1**

|                                                                             |                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday                                                                      | Mental Arithmetic homework to be brought in to be marked. Homework set. |
| Thursday                                                                    | Spelling test and literacy homework due in (Friday for M6).             |
| Friday                                                                      | New spellings and literacy homework given out.                          |
| (This may differ for M6 - a new timetable will be issued after we have set) |                                                                         |

**Please keep checking the monthly newsletters for any new events.**

### Looking Smart in School Uniform

Our school uniform is simple and practical, intended to keep the children looking smart and contributing to a feeling of belonging to the school.

#### Girls

- White blouse or polo shirt.
- Grey skirt or pinafore dress, or tailored trousers.
- Maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan.
- In the winter, grey socks or grey tights.
- In the summer, pink (not red) check cotton dress and plain white socks.



#### Boys

- White polo shirt.
- Grey long trousers.
- Maroon school sweatshirt.
- Plain grey socks.



#### All children also require:

- Plain sensible black shoes (not boots, sandals or trainers).
- Small school bag (to fit on their peg)
- Water bottle.
- School sun hat (if needed)

#### Sports

- Coloured house T-shirt (Blue - Normans, Red - Vikings, Green - Romans, Yellow - Saxons).
- Plain black cotton P.E. shorts
- Trainers for outdoor games
- Tracksuits may be worn for outside games in colder weather

It is helpful if the children keep their P.E. kit in a named drawstring bag to hang on their peg rather than a backpack or a large kitbag. **If for any reason your child can not do PE, or does not have the correct kit, please can you notify the class teacher in the form of a note in the child's reading record.** Thank you.

#### Jewellery, hair and nails

We **do not** allow jewellery in school as it can be a source of danger in P.E. and swimming. Pierced ears should have a stud only. Earrings have to be removed or taped for P.E. and swimming lessons. Please provide a roll of tape in your child's PE bag if they are going to tape their ears. All long hair **must** be tied back for games and swimming lessons.

We would also appreciate it, if children with long hair could tie it back during the general school day with plain and simple bands, clips or ribbons in brown, black or maroon.

Boys' hair should be a traditional style and neither too short or too long. No 'fashion' cuts are allowed. Nail varnish should be removed before the start of each school day.

**The school and Local Authority do not accept liability for loss or damage to personal property and we therefore do not encourage children to bring such items, including toys to school. Mobile phones are not permitted unless prior consent has been given from Mrs Westley.**

## E-Safety

Below is some important information on the school's policies on taking photographs of children.

### Using Images Safely and Responsibly

We all enjoy and treasure images of our family and friends. Our new-born baby, first steps, family events, holidays and school events are moments we all like to capture in photos or on video.

We then have the added and exciting dimension of adding our images and video to our social network, such as Facebook, YouTube and many other online websites. This means that we can easily share our photos and video with family and friends. Whilst this is naturally useful, in schools and educational settings we do need to protect and safeguard all children and staff in our school, including those who do not want to have their images stored online.

Online Images and Video. What should we think about before adding online any images or video? Are there any risks?

#### Facts

- Once online any image or video can be copied and stay online forever.
- Some children are at risk and **MUST NOT** have their image put online. Not all members of the school community will know who they are.
- Some people do not want their images online for personal or religious reasons.
- Some children and staff may have a complex family background which means that image sharing online can have unforeseen consequences.

We must all 'Think Before We Post' Online.

At Welwyn St. Mary's School we are happy for parents and carers to take photos and video of the school events and productions for personal use but request that these images are not distributed or put online. This is to protect all members of the school community.

Please note: From time to time we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in our school. This might be on our website or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety. **If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used in this way, please send a letter to your child's teacher.**

***Thank you all for your continued support.***

Mrs Phillips, Mrs Platt, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Mather  
September 2019