

Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School Autumn Term 2021 Year 6

Welcome to
Year 6

Light and
Electricity



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Charanga



The
Americas

Geography
Fieldwork

P6	HT6	M6 for Groups
<p>Mrs Phillips Class Teacher Monday - Wednesday am</p> <p>Mrs Branch Class Teacher Thursday am and Friday am</p> <p>Mrs Mather Class Teacher Wednesday pm - Friday pm</p> <p>Ms Mills Teaching Assistant every morning</p> <p>Mr O'Neill Teaching Assistant (1:1) every morning</p>	<p>Mrs Thompson Class Teacher Monday - Wednesday</p> <p>Mrs Harrison Class Teacher Thursday - Friday</p> <p>Mr Hawley PPA cover (Wednesday for maths)</p> <p>Mrs Hutchinson Teaching Assistant every morning</p>	<p>Mrs Mather Class Teacher</p> <p>Monday - Friday Mornings only - to teach English and maths</p> <p>(This provision will stop 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 home learning 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 home learning 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 home learning 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 home learning 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, as per the current drop-off plan, 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 comes to school in their PE kit on their PE day. Children must take earrings out for PE. However, if a child cannot do this, then please provide tape in for them to be covered.
- Ensuring your child has their reading book and home learning record, 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, following our current procedures.

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

English

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

- Whole school unit - inference focus. Based on the book: Lift (also linked to Design and Technology)
- Reports - text: Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastical World Around You.
- Poetry - personification and Autumn poems.
- Work based on the book: Wisp - narrative
- Work based on the book: Planetarium - non-narrative
- 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 we have been placing 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 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 child 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 and signing the home learning record.

In addition to this, have a look at our Google Classroom and the 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

All children have a Purple Mash 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. Each child has a Times Table Rock Star login which is a quick and easy website and app for the children to practise daily.**

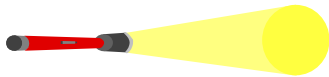
<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>. Please help your child to both learn these, and be able to use them quickly. We now have a box in our home learning record for parents to sign in order to show that this is happening. Mental arithmetic homework will continue as usual and is marked in school on a Monday.

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. 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. We will also be putting some knowledge organisers on to Google Classroom so look out for these.

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

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').

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.

Topic - Geography

Our focus for this half term will be geography. We will begin with a fieldwork project - exploring Singlers Marsh (our local nature reserve). We will consider the impacts of a proposed housing development and explore ways in which we can help protect this site. We will then move on to looking at continents and oceans, climates, biomes and make comparisons between the UK and America. This study will link to our summer history topic about the Mayan people of Central America.

Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

In PSHE we follow a scheme called Jigsaw - these are our topics this term:

- Being me in my world
- Celebrating Difference

Art

Our art theme for this term will look at 'People in Motion' and we will study the artist, Lowry (considering perspective). We will also carry out a number of Christmas art activities, including the PTFA Christmas card project.

Design and Technology - This term we will mainly focus on art but we will explore 'Pop-ups' - linked to our whole school literacy unit.

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.

Music

In music, we will be trialling a new programme called Charanga. We will also be studying complex rhythms using Djembe drums, and closer to Christmas, we will be learning seasonal songs in preparation for our Christmas service at church.

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 home learning 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 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. 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. In addition to this, we would like the children to be learning their multiplication facts daily - please use the space in the home learning record to show your child is doing this.
- **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 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.
- ☺ 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	New spellings and literacy homework given out (for the next Thursday)

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 home learning 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 Branch, Mrs Mather, Mrs Harrison and Mrs Thompson
September 2021