

YEAR 6 SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back. We hope you had a restful Easter break and are ready for the busy term ahead!

Summer term themes

We are continuing with our Terrible Tudors theme and after half term, we will be beginning our Lion King theme, which will culminate in our end of term production. Everyone will be involved in our performance in some way, either in a speaking or non-speaking role, dancing, playing instruments, singing or backstage crew and it is a great opportunity to showcase talents, build confidence and work together. We have held our auditions this week and will hopefully be in a position to tell children their parts before half term. The dates for the performances are **Monday 14th July** and **Tuesday 15th July at 6.00 pm**. Ticket and costume letters will be sent out nearer the time.

This term in RE we will be looking at the topic 'What religions say to us when life gets hard'. This unit of work will include asking questions about what happens when we die as well as exploring different religious views of what happens after we have died including the Hindu belief of reincarnation; the Christian and Muslim belief in heaven and what people who don't believe in God think happens after death. Children will have the opportunity to talk about their own ideas of death as well as exploring the views of Christians, Hindus, Muslims and non-religious beliefs. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

SATs

With SATs almost upon us, we wanted to remind you of some of the information we discussed at the Year 6 workshop in autumn term and share some further details with you.

Where and when?

The tests will take place in the Year 5 and 6 classrooms. We feel the classroom offers the children a familiar setting and makes the tests a less formal experience. They will take place during the week beginning **12th May**. Below is a timetable of when each test takes place.

	am
Monday 12th	English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling
Tuesday 13th	Reading Paper
Wednesday 14th	Maths Paper 1 (arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (reasoning)
Thursday 15th	Maths Paper 3 (reasoning)
Friday 16^h	No Test – Forest School Day

Illness

It is really important that your child attends school each day of SATs week and is able to sit their test. We do not expect children to come in if they are seriously ill, but if they have a cold or cough, please send them in; if needs be, we will send them home afterwards! Even if a child breaks their arm, they are able to take their test (this happened a few years ago – a scribe was provided for the child).

Breakfast Club

During SATs week we provide a Breakfast Club at school. This will take place in the hall from 8.15 am, Monday to Thursday of SATs week. This provides the children with a chance to come and have some breakfast and an informal chat with their teachers and peers before their tests. We will provide drinks and lots of toast, but ask the children to each bring in something too if they are able: any unopened, in-date breakfast items which they are happy to share with others – bread-based products, butter, jam, croissants etc. (Sorry – we can't cook anything apart from toast, crumpets and pancakes!) Please remember we are a nut-free school so cannot have anything with nuts in, including chocolate spread with hazelnuts.

Results

The SATs papers are sent away to be externally marked, and the children should receive their SATs results in their end of term reports.

The children have been working really hard in school in the run up to SATs week. As always, your support at home is invaluable; making sure your child gets plenty of sleep, is eating properly and the usual praise, reassurance and support are key! If you have any questions about the SATs tests, please feel free to ask one of us. It just remains for us to wish all the children good luck in their tests; we know how hard they have been working and all that we ask is that they do their very best. In the Year 6 section of the school website there is a document called 'Exam Survival Kit' which has been provided to us by Relax Kids. It contains some useful tips and strategies which could help your child with any stress they may be feeling during SATs week.

Trips and activities

There are many opportunities coming up for the children to take part in a variety of different trips and activities to celebrate the end of their time at primary school. Participation in these depends on each child's continued good behaviour and children will not be permitted to go if expected standards of behaviour are not met between now and the activity dates. Below are a list of the dates and we will write to you with further information shortly. We are currently working on a plan for our leavers' events and will give more details in due course.

London Residential – Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd May
Year 6 Performances – Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th July
Leavers' event (children only) – Wednesday 16th July
Leavers' assembly – Thursday 17th July @ 10am
Drayton Manor – Friday 18th July

Baby Photos

It's that time of year again when we ask our lovely year 6s to send in **one** baby photo *and* **one** photograph of their first day of school (or at some point during their first year, even if they started at a different school) - the more embarrassing the better! We only need one set from each child. They should be either emailed to the address here

Y6babyphotos@lyppardgrange.worcs.sch.uk or sent in in a named envelope to be scanned, ready for use in our Leavers' Assembly and the originals will be returned to you.

Please ensure you have sent them in by **Friday 23rd May**. We do not have the time to chase these up, so if we do not receive them, we will assume you do not wish your child's photos to be featured in the assembly. If there are any problems with this, please speak to one of the Year 6 team.

Transition to high school

Soon, the arrangements for transition sessions at your child's new school will be communicated with you. If you have any questions about these arrangements, it is important that these are directed to the new school, as they will be in a position to answer them. We will also be in contact with the high schools this term to pass on academic and pastoral information about the children.

PE and Forest School

Please ensure that your child continues to have their summer outdoor PE kit in school at all times – green or black shorts, a white t-shirt and trainers along with a hat and sun cream (this would also be useful for playtimes). As the weather is getting warmer, children may also wish to bring a roll in deodorant to use after PE sessions (no aerosols please).

On **Friday 16th May** the children will be taking part in a Forest School session. As part of this, children will be preparing their own fire and cooking food over it so if there are any additional dietary requirements we need to be aware of, please let us know - by sending a note in with your child - before this date. Because the session is running for the whole school day, we ask that children come to school in their Forest School kits and they **will not** need their uniforms. As the weather can be temperamental, please ensure your child has an appropriate Forest School clothing kit for rainy **and** sunny weather. This must include long sleeved tops, old full-length trousers and waterproof footwear such as wellingtons, walking boots or old trainers. In addition, we suggest sun cream, a sun hat, a spare pair of socks, a jumper or fleece and a waterproof coat. Please note that even in warm weather, shorts and short-sleeved t-shirts are not suitable. If any parents are free to help out for some or all of the day, we would love to have you – please come and talk to one of us on the door.

Reading and Homework

It is vital that children are reading daily at home and bringing their reading journals in each day to show what they have been reading. As they are nearing the start of high school, we expect them to take responsibility for this themselves and we will continue to monitor this. In addition, after SATs we will be returning to setting homework each week. Tasks will be

posted on the school website (Children – Year 6 – Homework). It is important that children get into the habit of planning their time carefully in order to get all of their tasks done every week, including their daily reading, as their homework load will only increase once they reach high school.

Sex and Relationship Education

As we discussed at the parent workshops at the start of the year, during this term we will be starting our Sex and Relationships Education programme. The sessions will explore the idea of relationships including friendships, parent-child and family relationships and adult sexual relationships; puberty and the physical and emotional changes associated with this; the concerns and worries of young men and women as they go through these changes, along with sexual stereotyping. These sessions are aimed to complement and support any discussions you may wish to have at home. All of the information regarding our SRE Programme is on the school website.

The Relationships Education programme is compulsory however the sex education is not compulsory and as parents, you have a right to withdraw your child. We do, however, hope that all children will take part in all of the sessions in the programme, as we feel that it is an important part of their education at this age. We would also emphasise that at all stages content will be appropriate to the age of the children and dealt with sensitively.

Hoodies

If you have ordered a hoodie for your child, then these are now being processed. Once the hoodies are delivered, we will distribute them to the children. We will then have 'Hoodie Friday' each week where children will be welcome to wear their jumpers alongside their school uniform. However, this is a privilege which must be earned and is dependent on each child's continued good behaviour.

Sun safety

With warmer weather showing signs of arriving, we ask that every child have a named sunhat in school, that sun cream be applied to your child prior to the start of the day or as and when necessary and extra drinks provided. If children wish to reapply sun cream during the day, please send them in with a named bottle which they can keep in their bags. Children are permitted to wear sunglasses however we recommend that these are inexpensive as school cannot take responsibility for loss or damage.

Finally, as you can tell, it is an extremely busy term in Year 6 and we would ask that you keep a close eye on the school website for any additional upcoming dates and information. We are always available on the door in the morning and at the end of the day to answer any questions you may have.

We would like to thank you for your continued support,

<i>Jess Taylor Class Teacher</i>	<i>Fiona Tilley Class Teacher</i>
<i>Martine Taylor Teaching Assistant</i>	<i>Nic Browning Teaching Assistant</i>
<i>Donna Jones Teaching Assistant</i>	