

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher
Mrs S Stace
Tel: (01442) 862729
Fax: (01442) 874467
e-mail: admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk
www.westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk



Westfield Primary School
& Nursery
Durrants Lane
Berkhamsted
Herts. HP4 3PJ

Year 6 - Autumn Newsletter

11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you have enjoyed your summer holidays. It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to class and to Year 6. We will be starting the year focusing on transitioning back to school and well-being. We will be discussing our feelings, what we have taken from the last 6 months and how we feel right now. We will be focusing on how we can make the most of our year ahead and how we can work as a team to achieve the things we want to achieve this year and importantly how we can manage our feelings and develop strategies to cope with changes and uncertainty.

Cross-curricular:

In History we will be researching the question: 'How did a pile of dragon bones help to solve an ancient Chinese mystery?' In Geography: 'How is climate changing the world?' In Science we will investigate light and how it travels. Art and D&T will be integrated with these subjects, too. In French, we will be looking at telling the time.

English:

This term in Year 6 the children will start by looking at the poetry book "The Lost Words" and will create our own poetry and illustrations based on this book. We will then continue our Talk for Writing English units, starting with a suspense genre with a focus on developing descriptive skills around settings. Reading fluency and comprehension will be a major focus throughout the year and we will have structured lessons which aim to enhance comprehension and inference skills as well as the ability to assimilate and summarise information given. Grammar continues to be very important but mostly this will be taught alongside our English units so that it gives purpose to the grammar terms we need to learn.

Spellings are important from the start – we will focus on spelling patterns and word meanings and develop our vocabulary with the 'Word of the Day'. Each week, the children will be given a list of spellings; the expectation is that the children will write a sentence for each word placing it in context thus demonstrating that they understand its meaning. We will be looking for powerful, complex sentences, accurate spelling, and well-formed cursive handwriting. These words will be revisited throughout the week. They will also be given a Look, write, check sheet which they can complete as part of their morning activities and at home. Spellings will be given out on Fridays and tested the following Friday. Please encourage your child to learn, practise and understand these spellings at home.

Please ensure your child has time to read at home and is also read to – it is important for children to learn from adults and their reading style, as it is for parents to hear the child's fluency. At this time, you can also ensure they have thoroughly understood what they have read. Reading is integral to helping develop their creativity, use of vocabulary and writing techniques which they can then use in their own writing. Please encourage your children to read a broad range of books and to try something new.

Maths:

We will be covering the Y6 curriculum in Maths but we do understand that there may be some gaps from the Year 5 curriculum which we will ensure are addressed when teaching the relevant unit. In addition to Maths lessons we have daily fluency lessons where children can practise what they have learned. Times tables is important as a foundation for all maths and we will be continuing with Times Tables Rockstars which children can access at home as well as at school.

PE:

Team Nevelson have PE on Monday and Wednesday (Basketball). Please ensure an appropriate PE kit is in school every week. They will also need appropriate warm clothing for outdoor PE in the colder months. This should include trousers and a hoody/jacket (blue or black please) as children should not wear their school jumper or cardigan for PE. **N.B.** Girls who wear tights in winter will need a pair of socks in their PE bag.

Personal belongings and safety:

Please ensure your child understands the importance of road safety and remind them to use the crossings and to have their phones in their bags or pockets when walking to and from school. All phones must be handed in during registration. They will be kept securely in the office and returned to the children at the end of the day. ***The school takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to pupil mobile phones.*** They are sent in at your own risk. Please note that if a phone is found in the classroom or in a pupil's possession during the school day it will be confiscated, and a parent will need to collect it from the school office.

Finally, please ensure that your child has a **named water bottle** with them every day.

Many thanks for your continued support. We hope your child will enjoy their learning this term in Year 6.

We are always happy to deal with any questions or concerns you may have at the end of the school day so feel free to find one of us after school or contact us using the note system outside the classroom door or by contacting the school office.

Kind Regards

Mrs Moorby, Mrs Edwardson and Miss Moody

Key Dates for your diary:

Tempest Photography (Individual Photos) – Wednesday 30th September
INSET Day – School Closed – Monday 5th October
Walk to School Week – 6th to 9th October
Flu Vaccinations – Thursday 15th October / Monday 23rd November
Parents Evening – Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st October – To be confirmed
Virtual Harvest Festival – Friday 23rd October
Half-Term – Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October
Virtual Christmas Carols – Friday 18th December