



Forward Together in Learning, Effort and Behaviour

Welcome to Year 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 6. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year to inform you about life in Year 6. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate expectations for their age and have a positive and fulfilling experience in Year 6.

EXPECTATIONS

In Year 6, we expect every child to work towards achieving their full potential. Work set will be matched to suit the varying abilities within the year group. All children will be expected to present their work neatly and always try their best. They will be asked to redo work that is not up to standard in their own time. The expectation is in Year 6 we behave with courtesy and respect to all. We focus on celebrating positive behaviours; however we have a behaviour system in place of two reminders and then the expectation is that they will leave the class to go to Mrs Rowe. They will then work in Mrs Rowe's room.

- To be respectful to both their peers and all adults they work or spend time with.
- To not distract those around them and work co-operatively in a calm and peaceful manner enabling all students in the class to learn.
- To be a positive role model to the younger year groups.
- To be independent learners.
- To be resilient when facing challenges.
- To use a range of presentational skills.
- To be responsible for their learning and personal organisation.
- To take pride in their work and always produce their best.
- To continue to build up pace of work in order to achieve their full potential by the end of Year 6.
- To enjoy learning and develop a thirst for knowledge.
- To develop their oracy skills.

YEAR SIX STAFF

Class Teacher

- Miss Nixon

Support Staff

- Mrs Wright Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Denyer Support staff

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As is required by law, we follow the National Curriculum which provides the children with the opportunity to fulfil their individual potentials. The children are grouped in a variety of ways such as: ability groups; mixed ability groups and friendship groups when learning. We believe that this maximises learning opportunities for all the children. In addition to daily lessons in English and Maths the children will cover the full curriculum over the week.

Our topics this year are:

Autumn Term: Rainforest Life - The Mayans and Amazon Rainforest.

Spring Term: Victorian Revolution - The Victorians, the Slave Trade and North America.

Summer Term: Battle of Britain - World War 2 and European countries.

At How Wood we are committed to ensuring that your child enjoys lessons and is challenged appropriately. In order to provide this a typical lesson will include at least one of the following strategies:

- High order questioning e.g. 'How can you explain...?', 'What do you know about...?' 'Let's think about why...?'
- Open-ended activities which develop thinking skills; problem solving and investigations
- The expectation that children will explain their thinking and learning to others
- Mixed ability groupings where the children have opportunities to support and challenge each other through discussion and appropriately challenging tasks
- Differentiated activities
- Challenging children to ask questions and be active learners and thinkers
- Self-assessment and editing

READING

Your child should still be keeping a record of everything read at home or school in their Reading Records. Children should aim to read a variety of texts and ensure they are familiarising themselves with any new vocabulary. Please encourage your child to read regularly as this will enable them to fully access all areas of the curriculum.

We do guided reading every day using a whole class higher level text. During the Guided Reading Lessons the children will listen to an adult read before answering questions about the text. Our activities include dictionary work to help with vocabulary development, inference questions to develop higher order thinking skills, retrieval questions to show their understanding of the text. However some children will also be heard to read every day or take part in our reading revival scheme.

Recommended Reading List ideas:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-listsfor-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-6-pupils-ks2-age-10-11/>

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-6>

SPELLINGS

Spellings will be handed out on Friday and be tested the following Friday. They will have the opportunity to practise them at school during English and complete short activities within class to support learning the spelling rules. As I'm sure you are aware, spelling is a key part of how children are assessed at the end of Year 6. It is therefore vital that children are taking the time to learn their spellings thoroughly at home, taking note of different patterns and rules.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES

In Year 6, children need to be able to recall multiplication facts quickly and confidently, including related division facts. It is therefore important that children continue to practise their times tables at home as well as in school. This is essential in continuing to secure their mental and written fluency. Times Table Rockstars are a must as they allow the children to learn times tables in a fun and competitive way.

REWARDS AND MERITS

We have a whole school approach to rewards. We will be awarding weekly certificates for good behaviour, effort, learning and kindness. The children also work towards merits to earn a bronze, silver and gold certificate. If the children produce an extra special piece of work they will visit Mrs Rowe to get a praise postcard or a Headteacher's certificate.

HOME LEARNING

Maths and English homework will be set each week on Google Classroom on Friday. The expectation is that it will be completed by the following Thursday. The topic menu will be posted on Google Classroom at the beginning of each half term for the children to complete at least four tasks.

UNIFORM

It is essential that all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. Hair bands, hair clips and accessories must be sympathetic to our uniform colours (blue, black, grey) and long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons. Black school shoes (or un-patterned black boots in the winter months) must be worn. Trainers or sport's shoes are not part of the school uniform and therefore are not permitted.

PE KITS

PE will be on Wednesday and Thursday; however, it is important that your child has their kit in school all week. The kit is as follows:

- Black shorts
- Yellow T shirt
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Dark coloured track suit bottoms (for cold weather)
- Dark coloured sweat shirt (for cold weather)

For health and safety reasons children with earrings will be asked to remove them or tape them up.

Please remember that all pieces of uniform need to be named.

EQUIPMENT

The children will be provided with a pencil, pen, ruler etc. to use within lesson times. However, it would be useful for children to bring a single pencil case to school, which must fit into their drawer.

Useful items include:

- Felt tips
- Handwriting pen - not a biro
- Coloured pencils
- Sharpener
- Glue stick
- Rubber
- Highlighter
- Water bottle

ATTENDANCE

Please ensure that your child is in the playground by 8.50am ready to line up. It is important that your child arrives on time as learning begins promptly as soon as they arrive in the classroom. If your child is absent, please inform the school on the morning of the absence. A letter must also be sent to the office on their return to school. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning since they will miss vital work that has been planned. This will then mean they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.

If for any reason your child is late in the morning please enter the school via the office so they can be marked in the register and any dinner choices can be made.

Non-attendance and punctuality is recorded and is regularly monitored by the Head Teacher and the Hertfordshire Attendance Improvement Officer.

PLAYTIME SNACK & LUNCH

How Wood is a healthy eating school and we encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Playtime snacks should consist of a piece of fruit. As there are a number of children across the school with nut allergies, we ask parents not to send in nut based products.

Herts Catering, who provide our school meals, ensure that lunches are well balanced and healthy. Packed lunches that some parents provide should also be balanced and healthy.

DATE OF CLASS ASSEMBLY

Friday 7th October 2022

ISLE OF WIGHT

Monday 5th June to Friday 9th June 2023

There will be a meeting closer to the time and more letters will be coming out when we know final numbers, cost and itinerary.

CLASS TRIP

Cadbury World - Ancient Maya

Milestones Museum - Victorians

Lincolnsfield Children's Centre - 1940's Experience

SATs

There will be a separate SATs meeting in November.