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**Achievement through Creativity, Community and Challenge**

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Wednesday 4th September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! It has been lovely to see all the children again today and to get the new year off to a good start. Below is some information you may find helpful about what to expect this term and beyond.

**Our curriculum**

Autumn Term- **Extreme Earth**: a Geography topic which examines different extreme biomes across the world. Our challenge is to design our own version of the Eden Project for Oxfordshire that we can send to the Oxford tourist board to convince them this is what they need.

Spring Term- **Movers and Shakers**: People and ideas that change the world - a topic which develops children's understanding of what makes someone inspirational. Primarily, we will be focusing on Rosa Parks, MLK Jr. and Charles Darwin, but we will also be looking at many other inspirational people.

Summer Term- **Maya civilisation**: a History topic which delves into the Maya civilisation.

**School new start times and finish**

Year 6 children are allowed to enter the building on their own and make their way to their classroom from **8:40am**. This will give the children time to settle, wash their hands and complete their early morning work. The school day now ends at **3:10pm**.

**Parent Meeting**

On Tuesday 17th September from 14:30 and 15:00 we will be holding an in-person drop in meeting (in Violet classroom) which will outline what to expect in Year 6 and present an opportunity for parents to ask questions. For those of you who cannot make the meeting, we will upload the slides to the school website. This is the link to the Year 6 page

<https://www.windmill.oxon.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+6&pid=127>



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**P.E Kit**

Children should bring in their PE kits on **Monday and take them home on Friday**. Year 6 PE lessons are scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, however it is useful for the children's PE kits to remain in school all week.

**Homework**

Homework for the Autumn Term will be given on a **Friday** and is due to be handed in on a **Wednesday**. This will usually consist of Maths and Spelling. **We will begin this in week 2**. Work will be uploaded onto Google Classroom and paper copies will be available on request. In preparation for SATs, we also promote the importance of daily reading through our Reading Karate scheme of work (a letter explaining this has been sent out separately). We also run weekly competitions between the Year group and others, using Times Table Rock Stars (T.T.R.S). All children should have a login for this. Please contact your class teacher if required.

**Food technology**

As part of our Food Technology Curriculum this term, all Year 6 children will be given the opportunity to make pasta with Mrs Noonan. As part of this, we are asking for a voluntary donation of £1 per child to buy the ingredients needed for the lessons. Could we ask that donations are in by **Friday 20th September, as a cash contribution**.

**PG-rated films**

We like to make use of technology throughout the curriculum and sometimes take the opportunity to use feature films and associated resources for education or enrichment activities. There are occasions when the materials we would like to use have been classified Parental Guidance (PG). Please contact us via email if you do not wish your child to view PG-rated material at school. If we have not heard from you by **Friday 13th September**, we presume you are happy for your child to view PG-rated films that we deem acceptable for their age and maturity.

**Science Oxford trip**

On Wednesday 18th September (Wk 3), we will be visiting Science Oxford. A separate letter will be sent out with more information and how to give permission for your child and make a voluntary contribution online. **Please could payment be made by Friday 13th September**.



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**Communication**

In preparation for secondary school, Year 6 uses Google classroom, where each child will have access to work at school and from home. This means we do not use the seesaw platform. At times, we will send out paper copies of letters to keep you updated. We also use the School app and emails through parent reps. Could I ask that if you are a parent rep, could you email Mr Donhou [mdonhou@windmill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:mdonhou@windmill.oxon.sch.uk)

**Key dates**

- Science Oxford- 18th September
- I.M.P.S first aid training at the J.R. hospital:
- **Violet class- 29th November**
- **Lilac class- 2nd December**
- **Lavender class- 5th December**
- SATS week- 12th-15th May
- Kilvrough week- 2nd-6th June

For Kilvrough, we will send out a letter in November with details of a parent meeting in December. We then hand out letters with details on the trip at this time. Further letters for kit lists and a final parent meeting are sent in the Spring term. We are all excited to be going back to Wales!

**Provisional dates- TBC**

- Enterprise- 22nd May
- The Big Meal- 18th June
- Secondary transitions are usually the last week of June and the start of July
- Year 6 performances- 8th July at 1pm and 9th July at 6pm

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your class teacher.

Best wishes,

Mr Donhou, Mr Davies and Miss Brown