

The Year Ahead



2022-2023

Follow us into Year 6.....



THE YEAR AHEAD IN YEAR 6

MR LEON BAKER – CLASS TEACHER

Teaching in class - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday am, Friday.

MRS HELEN BARBOUR – HIGHER LEVEL TEACHING ASSISTANT

Teaching in class on Thursday pm. Working with the class to support teaching and learning on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday am and Friday am.

OUR CLASS

We have 26 children in the class. Classroom organisation is a mix of whole class, group or paired work and individual teaching. The emphasis will be on challenging the children to perform to their best, and tasks will usually be differentiated, by work or outcome, in the core subjects.

There is a demanding workload in Year 6 and expectations are high. Children are encouraged to take full responsibility for their own behaviour, work, homework, equipment and timekeeping in order to develop their independence and organisational skills in preparation for secondary school. Where possible, I aim to involve the whole class in decision-making and problem solving opportunities, both in our classroom and when taking the lead across the School. Members of Year 6 will have extra-curricular responsibilities during the course of the upcoming academic year.

CONSULTATIONS WITH PARENTS

There are regular timetabled meetings with parents throughout the school year. They are as follows:

18 th and 20 th October 2022	Individual meeting after school to discuss settling into Year 6
March 2023 – dates tbc.	Main consultation to discuss progress.
July 2023	End of year written reports and SATs levels

COMMUNICATION

As you will be aware from Mrs How's information at the start of term, all communication is to be through the office at the following email address:- office@steplemorden.cambs.sch.uk

Please be aware that staff will not be able to reply immediately as they will be in class teaching all day but will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Please ensure that you report absences (planned or otherwise) to the office by telephone.

Please read '**The Star**' every week to keep up-to-date with general school news and information specific to Year 6. Important information is generally shared by **parentmail** so please make sure you are signed up and check this regularly.

The **school website** is full of useful information. We have a Year 6 class page where we post information about the work we have been doing in class, along with photos of lessons, school projects and special events, a class timetable and news about our curriculum themes.

LANGUAGES

The language which we will focus on in Year 6 will be German. We will concentrate on the basics such as greetings, numbers, colours, countries, food and everyday language. Children will also learn some geographical and historical information about Germany, as well as about German customs and celebrations. Languages throughout the school will be taught through song and games, the whole point is to have fun whilst learning.

STATUTORY ASSESSMENT TESTS

We anticipate that the Year 6 children will be assessed during the week beginning the **8th May 2023** through the Statutory Assessment (National) Tests (SATs) in English and Maths for end of Key Stage 2. Over the course of the year we use sample papers and previous tests and will do our best to prepare the children with regard to knowing what to expect. If you - or a tutor - are using practice SATs papers at home, please bear this in mind. They will be assessed in Reading, Maths and SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) over the course of the year.

As has always been the case, Teacher Assessment for all subjects is continuous throughout the year and also forms a vital part of your child's transfer document to secondary school. You will be notified of the results of SATs tests before the end of the Summer Term as part of the end of year report.

I am sure you are aware that the weeks leading up to the test week in May are vital as important revision and practice sessions will take place. As the SATs tests approach, we will alter the timetable to introduce additional booster group sessions in Reading and Maths.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

READING

Children will have a reading book at school borrowed from the Year 6 Library and we will provide time for them to read as part of the school day. At home, please encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes every evening if they are not doing so already. Please talk with your child regularly about the books that they are reading – even if they are a fluent reader. In-depth discussion of a text ensures that the higher level meaning is fully grasped. Remember also that it is important for your child to select from a range of genres, including various non-fiction texts such as newspapers, magazines, instruction booklets, recipes, leaflets, websites etc.

TACKLING TABLES

We shall be continuing with 'Tackling Tables' this year and will aim to have a weekly test in the Autumn Term and into the Spring Term. Any practice that you are able to do at home with your homepacks would reinforce our learning as we are finding it makes a huge difference to children's' understanding of multiplication and division and their speed of recall of key facts. Certificates are presented in our Friday Celebration Assembly.

OTHER HOMEWORK

Initially, in the Autumn Term and the first part of the Spring Term, homework will be through Spelling Frame and Mathletics and will normally be linked to what we have been working on in class. Homework will usually be explained and given out on a Friday and will be expected to be completed by the following Thursday. Children are always asked to note any activities in their Homework Diary. If your child does not have access to a computer at home to complete set tasks then please let us know.

There will be a weekly spelling test, on the following Friday, linked to the activities and words from Spelling Frame. There will also usually be two different Mathletics tasks to complete.

Voluntary challenges and extension activities will be suggested regularly to supplement and reinforce class work. Due to the heavy workload and curriculum in Year 6, homework tasks should never take more than 30-45 minutes at a time per activity.

In the Spring Term, children will be given additional SATs revision activities that can be undertaken at home. Please encourage your child to have their homework diary and reading book with them every day. If they do not understand a homework task, we are always happy to help them if they let us know in advance of the deadline.

Over the Easter break it is our intention to set some SATs based homework in preparation for the upcoming tests the following month

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays. Your child needs to bring a named kit in a separate bag: plain black, blue or white shorts, school team t-shirt and trainers for outdoors. Most of our activities will be outdoors so children may also want to bring jogging bottoms and sweatshirts (without hoods) to wear in colder weather. Please could children remove their earrings or leave them at home on P.E. days as well as remembering to bring ties for long hair.

TRIPS

This year we plan to undertake the following to have some trips.

In the Autumn Term as part of our work on conflict and particularly the First World War, we hope to visit the Imperial War Museum at Duxford – more details to follow.

In the Spring Term it will be our residential trip to the Peak District in Derbyshire. You should have already received information regarding the details and payment of this trip. The trip is scheduled for 13-17 March 2023 and we aim to hold a parental meeting a few weeks before this trip to discuss the activities and the clothing.

In the Summer Term as part of our topic on rivers, we plan to visit Stibbington Education Centre – again more details to follow.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Secondary school preference forms will be issued this term and should be returned as soon as possible. Liaison meetings by members of staff from Bassingbourn Village College will take place in the Summer term. If you are considering other secondary schools for your child for Year 7, then it is always helpful to inform us of this as we are usually asked to provide references and information as part of the application process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about your child or any further questions about your child's time in Year 6. Thank you.

