



Monday 23rd January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 6 SATs, including National changes from 2016/2017 onwards

I am writing to let you know that Mrs Barnes, Miss Wells, Mrs Overy, Miss Davis and the Year 6 support staff team are all very impressed with your children's hard work during the Autumn term. As a class, they are hard-working, motivated, thoughtful learners and they have lots of potential for achieving well at the end of this year and as they go on to secondary school; a big well done to them for their continued progress in learning and to you for your support.

That said, there is still lots of incredibly hard work to do to make sure they are well-prepared and perform at their best in their SATs. **SATs week is the week beginning 8th May this year**, where the children will have a number of tests in Reading; English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling; and Maths. A number of significant National changes occurred last year, and due to this, we would like to invite you to a **parent workshop on Tuesday 7th February at either 9am or 5.30pm**. This meeting will last no more than 30 – 45 minutes but will run through these changes to support you in understanding how the children will be assessed, and, of course, allow you to ask any questions. We hope to see lots of you there!

Over the next term, we are working very hard to support your children in the following ways:

- Fun but challenging lessons in which children can learn new Maths and English skills and apply these across the curriculum (for example, within Science, Topic, RE etc). These lessons are always differentiated so that your child is working at a level which is supportive and challenging for them.
- Homework to reinforce what the children are learning in class. More reading, spelling and times tables practice is always a good idea too; the next academic competition spelling challenges have now been sent home, so this should help as a focus this half term (and more Maths to follow in February!). Children are demonstrating lots of enthusiasm for these which is great!
- Additional adult support in class for all abilities of children across a week.
- Additional targeted support for children of different abilities across the class. This includes small group work within and outside of the classroom, led by Mrs Stacey, Miss Douglas, Miss Davis and me. Please do not hesitate to ask us if you are unsure about the additional support being provided for your child.

We would like to ask for parental support in the following ways:

- Attendance. Please ensure that your child's attendance is as good as it can possibly be: Y6, so far this academic year, have been fantastic – 100% just last week! Gaps in learning caused by absences from school, or lateness causing absences from early morning interventions, do have a big impact on children's performance in their tests. ***In particular, it is not possible to authorise any leave of absence at all between now and the end of May – this is, of course, school policy anyway, but it is especially important over this period - thank you for your understanding with this.*** Medical appointments should also be avoided in the week of tests itself, because tests have to be taken at set times on set days – thank you.
- Homework. Please do continue to provide support for your child's homework. However, it is also important that the children are not over-worked, so please do not get carried away with





lots of test practice – I can assure you that we will be doing plenty of this in school! To further support children with their homework, school have been given a special school price on some **English and Maths resources** that will help your children to prepare for SATS, secondary school and beyond. **There are three books priced at £2.00 each or £4.50 for all three.** If these are not purchased through school they are £4.95 each. **There is a Reading, Maths and Grammar book.** If you would like to order any of these please complete the slip below and return to the office, with payment, any time between Wednesday of this week and half term. The books will be ready for you to take straight away.

- Encourage your child to do their best. None of us can ask any more – we just want children to continue to enjoy their learning and to try hard, not to become stressed or worried in any way.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Please do not hesitate to ask me or any of the Year 6 team if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rachel Kirk
Headteacher

Y6 SATS Buster books – please return this slip to the school office, with your payment

I would like to order:

Grammar, punctuation and spelling		£2.00
Maths		£2.00
Reading		£2.00
All three books: grammar, maths and reading		£4.50

I have enclosed £_____

Name of child: _____

