YEAR 6 – A message from the teacher and a few reminders

Welcome back to a new school year! The focus of the learning this term is ‘Ancient Greece: Not So Ancient After All?’ The topic is both History and Geography based and gives the children lots of opportunities to link their learning across the curriculum and build on learning from previous years. The English units we will be completing are Traditional Stories, Creating Tensions, Persuasive Writing and Email Conventions and all reading and writing objectives will be covered within these. We will be trying our hands at Greek Art and developing our sketching, painting and pottery skills. In the second half term, we will be having a Greek Immersion Day where the children will have the opportunity to come to school dressed as an Ancient Greek person if they wish. Our visit this term will be to Weston Park Museum in Sheffield (date to be confirmed). There is also a lot of Science work this term, and we will work on Living Things & their Habitats and Animals including Humans. In Maths, the children will continue to develop formal methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division so learning ALL times tables is a must! In RE, our study units are ‘Beautiful World, Wonderful God’ and ‘Expressing Faith Through The Arts’. Our PE days are Monday and Tuesday but there are often opportunities for extra sport so please ensure that indoor and outdoor kits are in school every day!

The ‘Learning Pod’ is open from 8.15am for any Year 6 child wishing to come into school early to complete some extra quiet study or to access the many online educational sites that we subscribe to. There’s no need to sign up and the children can come along as and when they want to.

Year 6 continue to have the responsibility of caring for our academy chickens and ducks and we are always on the lookout for volunteers to come and feed them over the weekends. Please see Mrs Larkin if you fancy caring for our feathered friends – you get to keep the eggs!

It is vital that your child continues to read regularly at home both to develop their independence as readers, as well as to expose them to good models for writing. We will monitor the reading material chosen and the amount undertaken at home. There will be a reading club during break times and Golden Time for those children that require additional reading time.

** To prepare for transition to secondary school, Year 6 children will also be expected to complete one piece of maths homework per week. After Christmas, revision tasks will be sent home in preparation for the SATs which will take place during the week beginning 13th May 2019. A parent information meeting about SATs will be held early in March.

We are looking forward to a fantastic term!

Here are some general reminders that you might find useful …

Things that your child needs to bring each day

- Reading pack
- Glasses – if your child needs to wear glasses they should be brought into school each day. If you have problems with this, please ask the optician for a second pair and keep them in school.
- Asthma inhalers – If your child is asthmatic it is essential that your child’s name is on the school register and they have an up to date inhaler in school. Without this he/she will not be able to go on visits or take part in PE sessions.
- Water Bottles - regular intake of water helps your child to focus as well as keep hydrated
- Target Book
- Coat
School Uniform
As you are aware we have a compulsory school uniform at Priory and children are required to wear the following:

**Boys**: Black trousers, burgundy knitted jumper or tank top (with school badge), plain white buttoned shirt, clip on tie (real tie optional from Year 3), black school shorts in the Summer, black or grey socks.

**Girls**: Black pinafore dress/skirt/trousers, burgundy knitted cardigan, jumper or tank top (with school badge), plain white buttoned blouse (with top fastening button), clip on tie (real tie optional from Year 3), yellow and white gingham dresses (no tie required)/black school shorts in the Summer, black, white or grey socks or black, grey or burgundy tights.

Children must wear appropriate, sensible, black shoes with good grip and closed toes. Trainers and boots are not acceptable.

Please be aware that children should not be wearing nail varnish or make up of any kind. Hair should not be dyed or have patterns shaved into it and extreme hairstyles are not encouraged.

The only jewellery allowed to be worn in school is a small watch and children with pierced ears may wear small, plain gold studs, which must be removed on PE days.

Should you wish your child to have their ears pierced, then we would ask that you please wait for the summer holidays. If your child cannot remove their studs, they will need to wear micro-pore tape from home during PE lessons.

**PE Kit**: Plain white t shirt, black or navy-blue shorts, training shoes (in a separate carrier bag please) and jogging pants / track suit for the colder weather. Kit should be brought into school every Monday and taken home for a wash on Friday. Long hair will need to be tied back in all sport lessons. Coloured house team t shirts should also be kept in the PE bag for occasional use during lessons.

Drinking Water bottles
Bottles should be taken home and washed thoroughly every weekend. Replacement bottles cost £2 each.

Homework
Children are expected to:

- Read at least 3 times a week at home (Please record this in their record book)
- Learn spellings ready for the weekly spelling test
- Practise the ‘Learn Its’, which will be shared via the class blogs. There is a ‘Beat That’ challenge each week to check that the children are improving.
- From time to time there may be other activities sent home to reinforce our work in class or to work towards a specific target, and if your child is receiving extra support they may be asked to complete tasks and challenges as part of a specialised programme.

Optional Homework
- Curriculum Projects
- Complete more of the 100 List activities
- Take part in the Class Blog each week

Knowledge Organisers
Each pupil has been given a Knowledge Organiser showing the key information that will be taught during topic lessons. This is the information that we aim for the children to know by the end of the topic. There will be a quiz, which will generally involve filling in missing details/words/numbers/labels etc on a copy of the knowledge organiser.

We believe there to be many benefits from sharing the knowledge organisers with parents/carers:

- You will know what the children will be learning about and can reinforce this at home
- Your child could choose something from the knowledge organiser to study in further depth at home and then share what they have learned with their peers
- By building up a collection of Knowledge Organisers, children will have access to the key information from all topics as they move through school, allowing them to build a picture more easily of how topics relate to
each other. With this in mind, we would ask parents/careers to encourage their children to store them safely.

**Zero Tolerance**
At Priory we believe that good behaviour for learning is essential and that every child has the right to work without being disrupted. Therefore, if your child is disruptive they will be given one warning and if they continue to disrupt they will be asked to sit on the edge of the class and have “time out”. If your child continues to disrupt they will be sent to another class to allow the rest of the class to carry on working. Parents will be informed if their child’s behaviour is not appropriate and asked to support the school in ensuring that their behaviour improves.

**What do I do if I have a problem or am concerned about something that has happened?**
In the first instance, please make an appointment to see the class teacher. If you still need help after that, you are welcome to make an appointment to see Mrs Rawson or Mr Abbott.