**Little Green Junior School - Year 6 Newsletter** Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your families have had a lovely summer break and are refreshed and ready for a brilliant year. We’d like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our Year 6 team. Through working closely together, we aim to best prepare your children for the transition from Key Stage Two to Key Stage Three whilst giving them an enjoyable and educationally enriching year of learning. With our whole school focus on curriculum development this year, we have an exciting opportunity to ensure your children’s learning is purposeful and equipping them with key skills for the future.

**The Curriculum**

Attached to this letter you will find a curriculum map outlining some aspects of our first topic - ‘Having a Voice’. We ask you to remember that curriculum is a focus this year, and this curriculum map provides only a skeleton of the projects that we will be undertaking.

All subjects in Year 6 are planned collaboratively and most lessons will be taught in the children’s base classes throughout the school year.

**Homework**

We value your support in encouraging your child to complete his/her homework. It is the child’s responsibility to copy down homework when asked and he/she should enter it clearly into his/her Reading Record, making clear the day it is due in. We have generally found that sending a child to homework club to do the work, if not handed in on time, is a sufficient deterrent for most children and also provides good training for the self-discipline that homework at secondary school demands. If there is a good reason why your child cannot do the homework, then he/she must talk with the teacher concerned. If your child is struggling with his/her homework and has spent a reasonable amount of time on it (approx. 30 mins) then please encourage him/her to seek help from the teacher, rather than struggle on. Children can also choose to do their work in homework club if they know that they will not have much time at home on a particular week. Following our homework review, we will be trailing a new method of giving homework this term. Watch this space, and the online blog, for details.

We request that you try and hear your child read aloud as much as possible, discussing the text as you read to help with understanding. Vocabulary knowledge and skills have a prominent position on the English curriculum and engaging with home reading is the most effective method of supporting your child’s learning. Additionally, this allows for you to check that your child’s comprehension of what they have read and that they are sufficiently challenged by the text. Children should **read five times a week** with a **minimum of three to an adult** and this must be recorded in their reading record book and useful comments are appreciated. Your child’s teacher will check the record weekly and will inform your child which day that will be on. In addition, it is an expectation that spelling and times tables practice takes place daily to support learning.

**Reminders**

Children must not have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. The school does not accept responsibility for the loss or damage of any phones or other electrical equipment brought on site. If, in exceptional circumstances, there is a genuine need for child to have a mobile phone in school, permission must be sought via a written letter to Mr Roberts. Additionally, we do not allow any jewellery other than small studded earrings, not coloured or fancy. Nail varnish, transfer tattoos and hair gel/wax are also not permitted and must be removed before coming back to school.

Long hair should be tied up at all times with a discrete hair tie/ band of a plain colour, preferably black, brown, green or grey. Lost property accumulates very rapidly in school. Please ensure that **ALL** clothes are named so that they can be re-united with their owners easily.

**PE**

PE and Games days are as follows:

Rowan (Mr Hyde) Tuesday and Thursday

Chestnut (Miss Tarbox) Tuesday and Wednesday

Cherry (Miss Morris) Tuesday and Thursday

We must stress however that PE kit should be in school every day as we hope to include exciting curriculum opportunities that require physical activity.

For all PE lessons children should have a change of socks, a school PE shirt (either from the old colour team system, or one of the new green ones), black PE shorts and plimsolls. If it is very cold, green, grey, navy or black tracksuit bottoms may be worn. The children also need a sweatshirt or tracksuit top, again in green, grey, navy or black and a lightweight waterproof coat. For Games lessons, trainers should be worn and a carrier bag is needed to keep them in. Children wearing studded earrings will have to take them out for PE and Games lessons or bring surgical tape to cover them up. Children who attend clubs should bring an additional sports kit to wear as in our experience PE kits are often forgotten the next day.

**Equipment**

Your child was issued an equipment list in July and I have duplicated it below. Children in Year 6 should have the following equipment at all times: -

*Blue handwriting pens (can be ordered from school)*

*Black fineliner pens*

*Decent colouring pencils*

*Clear* ***plastic*** *30cm ruler (not flexible or hinged)*

*A good rubber*

*Sharpener with pot attached*

*A small pencil case which will fit in the desk tray.*

***Much lesson time is wasted if children do not have the necessary equipment. Please ensure that these are replenished/replaced if items become lost or broken.***

**Little Canada**

The Year 6 residential trip to Little Canada departs on Monday 30th September. Over the next couple of weeks, details such as activity groups and chalet arrangements will be finalised with the children and this information will be sent home along with a letter detailing the, now confirmed, activities and travel arrangements.

If your child is not attending Little Canada, further information will be coming home in the coming days.

**…and finally**

Mr Hyde, Miss Tarbox and Miss Morris are looking forward to what promises to be an excellent year working with your children.

If you have any queries about anything mentioned in this newsletter, or if you need to see us concerning other issues, we are happy to meet and talk with you at a mutually convenient time.

Thank you again for all of your support,

Mr Hyde Miss Tarbox Miss Morris