

## Welcome to Class Six

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome your child to Class Six. In Class Six, the aim is to encourage children to be more independent in preparation for secondary school. Outlined in this letter are some general reminders as well as some information about this year.

### **Staff in Class Six**

Teachers in Class Six are Mrs Anna Edmund (Monday – Thursday) and Mrs Vanessa Clarke (Friday and some Wednesday mornings). Mrs Rebecca Davies helps to support children in Class Six (Monday – Thursday) and also helps to teach Art with Ms Chloe Yandell on a Tuesday afternoon.

### **School Uniform**

Please encourage your child to wear correct school uniform and school shoes. It would be extremely useful if all items of school clothing could be named. Children with long hair should have it tied at back at all times for health and safety reasons.

### **Physical Education**

If your child is unable to participate in any sporting activities please let me know in advance, either in person or in writing. Children should have their indoor and outdoor P.E. kit in school at all times. Please ensure your child has appropriate P.E. kit which should include:

- a school PE t-shirt
- a pair of dark or navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings/shorts
- a change of socks and trainers

### **Stationery**

Children in Class Six are encouraged to use their own stationery. Your child will require a fully equipped, named pencil case including; pencils, a ruler, pencil sharpener and rubber. Children may use a fibre tipped ink pen (*dark blue ink only*) once they have passed their Milestone Three for handwriting. A folder or book-bag would be useful for children to keep all of their homework, letters and belongings together.

### **Homework**

Homework is given to children in order to help reinforce their learning. In Class Six, all children have a homework book. This year, homework tasks will generally be set on a Thursday and will need to be completed by the following Tuesday. Occasionally, when fewer homework tasks are set, it is encouraged children engage in activities such as: independent/shared reading, mental maths, maths games, times tables and spelling activities to reinforce spelling rules.

### **Mathletics**

As you may be aware, we use Mathletics in school to help improve children's mathematical skills and understanding. Mathletics is online and all of the children in the class will soon have access to it.

### **Reading Records**

Children are expected to regularly take part in shared and/or independent reading at home. Please encourage your child to frequently update their reading record and bring it into school every day. There are some questions in your child's reading record to help prompt them to write more detailed comments and also help provide a basis for discussion.

## **E-Safety**

We do strongly advise against children using social networking and messaging sites such as *Facebook, Instagram and Kik* and that you monitor your child's device regularly in order to ensure they are viewing age-appropriate material.

As there are new, special protections for children's data, please be aware of our Home School Agreement. We also ask that you do not post anything concerning the school or other children on social media *e.g. Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp*.

There will be an e-Safety meeting for parents to be held this year. Further information will be sent out shortly once a date has been confirmed.

## **SATs Week**

End of Key Stage 2 assessments (commonly referred to as SATs) will take place from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019. All assessments will take place during the morning sessions. Further information regarding the SATs and a full timetable will be sent out later this year.

## **Outdoor shoes/Wellington boots**

Please encourage your child to bring outdoor shoes/wellington boots into school so they can play on the school field throughout the year. Outdoor shoes/wellington boots should be named and kept in a named plastic bag.

It may also be useful for children to have a change of clothes (e.g. waterproof/old trousers) for playing on the field during the winter months and for our PlayWood sessions. This year, our PlayWood sessions will be during Terms 1 and 2 and will link with our Vikings topic.

## **Secondary Schools**

Choosing the right secondary school is an important decision for both parents and children. We recommend that you and your child visit schools on their open evenings and open days (during school time) to get a feel for what the school is like and if it is right for your child.

Deadline for applications for Year 7 in September 2019 is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 (*admissions now live on the B&NES website*). You should have received a letter from B&NES with details about Secondary School applications.

It would be extremely useful for us to know in advance if you are considering an independent school for your child, as we will need to prepare references by the end of Term 2.

## **Water Bottles**

Please ensure your child brings a named bottle to school every day, filled only with water (no squash or juice). Please ensure water bottles are also taken home daily and washed.

## **Residential Trip**

Class Six will be going on an outdoor activities residential trip at the end of Term 5 (22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> May). More information about the trip, including the cost, will follow shortly. Please put the dates in your diaries!

We are all looking forward to working with you and your child this year. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to see one of us. We are keen to sort out any problems quickly and would welcome visits at the end of school to improve communication.

Best wishes,

*Anna Edmund and Vanessa Clarke*

*Class Six teachers*