

Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope that you enjoyed the summer break. Year 6 is a busy, exciting and important year for your child, and one that will be fulfilling, rewarding and lots of fun.

This letter should give you a good overview of the Autumn term, including some small changes made necessary by COVID 19.

- Our topic this term is **World War 2 in Islington**. Please see the topic web and knowledge organiser attached with this letter for more information. We encourage the children to study the knowledge organiser at home before we begin our topic, in order for them to learn some key information which will aid their understanding in class.

- **PE and Dance lessons**

PE lessons for Year 6 will be on Mondays and Thursdays. In order to encourage the children to be as active as possible on their return to school, we will be reinstating the daily mile as part of our weekly routine. Therefore, please could children come to school everyday in clothing and footwear that will allow them to be active.

Dance with Jess will take place on a Friday (for each class this will only apply for 1 half term per term. 6A will have dance for the first half term, starting next week. 6R will have dance for the second half term.)

- **Weekly Parent Times**

Unfortunately, this term, face to face parent meetings will not be possible. However, we will be available during our usual parent time for discussions via phone. Please email the office to arrange this. Our weekly parent times are as follows:

6A Thursday 4.00 – 4.30 p.m.

6R Thursday 4.00 – 4.30 p.m.

As usual, if you are unable to make these times then please contact the office and we can arrange another, mutually convenient time to speak.

Parents' Evenings will take place this term and we will be in touch with details in due course.

- **School Journey to PGL and other visits**

Due to current guidelines concerning COVID 19 we, regrettably, are unable to go ahead with our usual Year 6 residential to PGL this year. We have made provisional plans for a residential trip to take place in the Spring term but will have to confirm this nearer the time.

Additionally, this term, visits will be restricted to within walking distance. However, we are pleased to announce that workshops can take place in the school and we hope to replace many of this term's trips with these. We have already booked the Young Shakespeare Company to come and hold workshops at the end of this half term, and are looking at a similar workshop for WW2 – more details to follow soon.

- **Family Biography Project**

This term, the children will be working hard to produce a biography of a family member, with links to our WW2 topic. Usually, we would then showcase these to the children's relatives and friends in a 'Biography Day' held in Autumn 2, which would replace the termly class assembly. Due to current restrictions, this will not be possible. However, we will still be continuing with the project with the aim of

publishing all the biographies in a book which the children can then keep. We will be sending out more information on this project later in the term.

- **Homework**

In Year 6, we start to prepare the children for secondary school by giving them two pieces of homework a week.

Spelling homework will be given out on **Tuesday**. We will send home a list of spellings for the children to learn which will then be tested in a dictation on **Friday**. In addition, the children will also be assigned a number of games on Spelling Shed which they should complete by Friday. We will be able to monitor the children's progress on these games through our teacher accounts.

An additional homework, based on an aspect of the children's learning during the week, will be set on **Friday** to be completed by **Tuesday**. We will be using the website 'SATs Boot Camp' to set this homework on the children's logins. We used this with Year 6 last year and found it to be very effective in helping the children retain what we have covered during the week. Each week they will be assigned 1 or 2 revision activities and then will complete an online quiz. We will monitor how the children have done each week through our teacher accounts.

- **Medicines**

If your child requires medication which is usually kept in school (inhalers, EpiPen's etc.) please can you ensure that two sets are sent in to school at the beginning of term. We are required to store one in the classroom and one in the medical room at all times.

- **Bringing items to school**

Please can you make sure that your children bring in only the following items to school (in accordance with current guidelines.)

- A labelled water bottle (There will be no shared drinking facilities on site in the classroom or at lunch)
- An optional reading book
- A lunch box (if not having school dinners)
- A coat

We ask that they do not bring in any other items, including rucksacks, as we no longer have use of the hooks in the corridor. We realise that in Year 6 there may be some children who will need to bring sanitary products in to school. These can be kept in a small bag which can fit in their tray.

- **Appropriate clothing**

Current guidelines require us to have the school and classrooms well ventilated. There will be at least 2 windows open at all times and as we move into Autumn it is likely to get colder than the children are used to. Please send them in wearing enough layers to be comfortable while working.

Even with the current restrictions in place, we are sure the children are going to have an enjoyable and exciting start to Year 6 and we are looking forward to their return. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office.

Best wishes,

Katherine Applegarth  
(Class teacher- 6A)

Natalie Rodrigues  
(Class teacher- 6R)

Judy Smith  
(Teaching Assistant- Year 6)