

## Welcome to Year 6

Welcome back to the start of another academic year and the last year of your child's primary school education! Obviously there is no need for any long-winded introductions: I am your child's class teacher for another year and the class teaching assistant is the wonderful Mrs Pelopida. This consistency is already benefitting your children enormously and we are both so delighted to have the opportunity to work with them again.

The year ahead will of course provide us all with challenges but I have no doubt that we are all very well-equipped to make this year one that is both highly successful and enjoyable.

If you have any questions, worries or concerns as the year progresses, please email me at [MRawes@reddings.herts.sch.uk](mailto:MRawes@reddings.herts.sch.uk) or alternatively call the school office to arrange a telephone meeting; I am normally very responsive and aim to help you as efficiently as I can.

### Home Learning

Reading— As your child nears the end of their primary school career, it is perhaps more important now than ever before that they continue to read regularly at home to supplement the work that is completed at school.

In an ideal world, you would be able to hear your child read multiple times a week; however, we appreciate that this is not always feasible and, moreover, they might have reached an age where they prefer to read silently and alone.

We therefore expect your child to sign their own reading record to log what they have read. Our expectation that this is more than simply writing the page numbers and dates: we would like to see your child express their views about what they have read, make predictions and offer their ideas about how the story is developing. I expect that reading records are signed by pupils **at least three times a week**. These will be checked **every Friday**.

As a school, we have made a conscious decision to not set formal homework yet to allow children to settle back into full-time education. As the term progresses, additional homework will also be set in addition to reading. This will include weekly spellings to learn and either a short reading comprehension task or a maths-based worksheet.

### SATs

At the time of writing, the formal end of KS2 assessments are still slated to be going ahead next year in the summer term. Further information about this will be sent home in the near future.

Our curriculum, however, is designed to be both broad and rich and will prepare your children for life after SATs and beyond.

### Ready to Learn

All children need indoor shoes and reading books and in school every day.

It is important they are also at school on time.

PE should be worn to school on a **Monday**.

Please ensure your child also has a water bottle in school every day.

## English

We will be producing writing which is inspired by the following texts:

Tuesday by Michael Wiesner

Wisp by Zana Fraillon and Grahame Baker-Smith

Planetarium by Raman Prinja

Night of the Gargoyles by Eve Bunting

Hermelin by Mini Grey

## Maths

We will be covering the following domains:

Place value in numbers with up to 8 digits

Formal written methods for the four operations

Mental calculation strategies

Fractions, decimals and percentages

Factors, multiples and prime numbers

Properties of shapes

## Science

We will be studying electricity by drawing accurate circuit diagrams, building series and parallel circuits and conducting practical investigations.

We will also be studying forces again due to the disruption to the curriculum in the previous academic year.

## Geography

We will be developing an understanding of natural disasters such as volcanoes and earthquakes, considering the reasons why some locations experience more natural disasters than others. To do this, we will be comparing the physical geography of Hemel Hempstead to California.

## Art/D.T

We will be designing, making and evaluating electronic burglar alarms by applying our learning about electricity in our science lessons.

## P.E

We will be developing our skills in the following activities: football, tennis, tag rugby and OAA (outdoor adventurous activities e.g. orienteering).

## Computing

We will be using software such as Audacity to learn how to record, edit and modify sounds on the computer.

## RE

We will be studying Christianity and Buddhism, considering how followers of the two religions express their beliefs through festivals, art and symbols.