



Forward Together in Learning, Effort and Behaviour

Welcome to Year 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 6. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year, to inform you about all aspects of school life in Year 6. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate expectations for their age and have a positive and fulfilling experience in Year 6.

EXPECTATIONS

- To be respectful to both their peers and all adults they work with.
- To be a positive role model to the younger year groups.
- To be independent learners.
- To be resilient when facing challenges.
- To be responsible for their learning and personal organisation.
- To take pride in their work and always produce their best.
- To continue to build up pace of work in order to achieve their full potential by the end of Year 6.

YEAR SIX STAFF

Class Teacher

- Miss Stone

Support Staff

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| • Mrs Wright | Teaching Assistant |
| • Mrs Meakin | SEN Teaching Assistant |
| • Mrs Goodfellow | PPA Cover (Thursday PM) |
| • Mr Ilori | PE Teacher (Tuesday PM) |
| • Mrs Monk | French Teacher (Wednesday PM) |



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As is required by law, we follow the National Curriculum which provides the children with the opportunity to fulfil their individual potentials. The children are grouped in a variety of ways such as: ability groups; mixed ability groups and friendship groups when learning. We believe that this maximises learning opportunities for all the children. In addition to daily lessons in English and Maths the children will have lessons in a variety of other subjects (see Topic Web).

At How Wood we are committed to ensuring that your child enjoys lessons and is challenged appropriately. In order to provide this a typical lesson will include at least one of the following strategies:

- High order questioning e.g. 'How can you explain...?', 'What do you know about...?' 'Let's think about why...?'
- Open-ended activities which develop thinking skills; problem solving and investigations
- The expectation that children will explain their thinking and learning to others
- Mixed ability groupings where the children have opportunities to support and challenge each other through discussion and appropriately challenging tasks
- Differentiated activities
- Challenging children to ask questions and be active learners and thinkers
- Self-assessment and editing

READING

Your child should still be keeping a record of everything read at home or school in their Reading Records. Children should aim to read a variety of texts and ensure they are familiarising themselves with any new vocabulary. Please encourage your child to read regularly as this will enable them to fully access all areas of the curriculum.

SPELLINGS

Spellings will be handed out on Wednesday and be tested the following Thursday. Children will also be given the opportunity to complete short activities within class to support their learning. As I'm sure you are aware, spelling is a key part of how children are assessed at the end of Year 6. It is therefore vital that children are taking the time to learn their spellings thoroughly, taking note of different patterns and rules.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES

In Year 6, children need to be able to recall multiplication facts quickly and confidently, including related division facts. It is therefore important that children continue to practise their times tables at home as well as in school. This is essential in continuing to secure their mental and written fluency.

REWARDS AND MERITS

We have a whole school approach to rewards. We will be awarding weekly certificates for good behaviour, effort and learning. The children also work towards 10 merits for a special Head teacher's certificate. This you will know as the bronze, silver and gold system.

HOME LEARNING

Maths, English and/or topic homework will be set each week and handed out on Wednesday. The expectation is that it will be handed in by the following Wednesday, but it may be handed in as soon as it is completed. Homework Club is to be run on Monday lunchtimes and after school on Wednesday. This is a great opportunity for children to access any further support or resources.

UNIFORM

It is essential that all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. Hair bands, hair clips and accessories must be sympathetic to our uniform colours (blue, black, grey) and long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons. Black school shoes (or un-patterned black boots in the winter months) must be worn. Trainers or sport's shoes are not part of the school uniform and therefore are not permitted.

PE KITS

PE will be on a Monday and Tuesday; however, it is important that your child has their kit in school all week. The kit is as follows:

- Black shorts
- Yellow T shirt
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Dark coloured track suit bottoms (for cold weather)
- Dark coloured sweat shirt (for cold weather)

Teachers will send kits home to be washed regularly. For health and safety reasons children with earrings will be asked to remove them or tape them up.

Please remember that all pieces of uniform need to be named.

EQUIPMENT

The children will be provided with pencils, pens, glue sticks etc. to use within lesson times. However, it would be useful for children to bring a pencil case to school. Useful items include:

- Felt tips
- Coloured pencils
- Sharpener
- Rubber

We will no longer be providing children with a water bottle and ask that your child brings their own to school. Plastic cups will be provided for children who do not have a water bottle in school.

ATTENDANCE

Please ensure that your child is in the playground by 8.50am ready to line up. It is important that your child arrives on time as learning begins promptly as soon as they arrive in the classroom. If your child is absent, please inform the school on the morning of the absence. A letter must also be sent to the office on their return to school. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning since they will miss vital work that has been planned. This will then mean they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.

If for any reason your child is late in the morning please enter the school via the office so they can be marked in the register and any dinner choices can be made.

Non-attendance and punctuality is recorded and is regularly monitored by the Head Teacher and the Hertfordshire Attendance Improvement Officer.

PLAYTIME SNACK & LUNCH

How Wood is a healthy eating school and we encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Playtime snacks should consist of a piece of fruit. As there are a number of children across the school with nut allergies, we ask parents not to send in nut based products.

Herts Catering, who provide our school meals, ensure that lunches are well balanced and healthy. Packed lunches that some parents provide should also be balanced and healthy.

DATE OF CLASS ASSEMBLY

Friday 29th September 2017