

Year 6 Autumn Newsletter

We would like to wish both you and your children a very warm welcome to Year 6. We hope that the children's final year at Berrywood is a time filled with many new, exciting opportunities and chances to positively impact the school whilst also broadening and enhancing their knowledge and understanding across the wide range of subjects and ideas we will explore.

Our learning will focus heavily on applying children's ideas and critical thinking, the creation of powerful pieces of purposeful writing and opportunities for the children to develop and grow as young members of a wider society. We are incredibly excited for the year ahead and the chance to share with them their final primary year.

Weekly Routines Reminder...

- Monday:**
- Homework set
 - Outdoor PE
- Wednesday:**
- Reading diaries checked
 - Library (please ensure your child has their library book in school to change)
- Thursday:**
- Indoor PE
- Friday:**
- Homework due for completion

On Year 6 PE days, the children are permitted to come into school in their Berrywood PE kit.

Key Dates

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|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 04.09.2026 | Greek workshop |
| 07.10.2026 | PGL parents meeting (17:00-17:30) |
| 19.10.2026 | PGL residential trip |
| 19.10.2026 | Autumn market |
| 26.10.2026 | Half-Term |
| 10.11.2026 | Parents' Evening |
| 12.11.2026 | Parents' Evening |
| 18.11.2026 | Individual school photos |
| 20.11.2026 | Individual school photos |
| 27.11.2026 | INSET day |
| 04.12.2026 | Big Build Celebration (am) |
| 04.12.2026 | Christmas Fayre and Market |
| 18.12.2026 | Early finish option (13:15) |

Home Learning

During term time, the children will have weekly homework set. Homework will be completed online through www.maths.co.uk and will comprise of a short series of questions we hope will help embed understanding. The children will be given a login for this which can be found in their reading diaries. They should log in and complete the work which is set each Monday; this will be checked for completion on Friday. If children are struggling with any aspect of their homework, they should speak to an adult. Their first piece of homework will be set on Monday 14th September (week 3).

The importance in continuing to support your child with regular reading at home cannot be understated. This is one of, if not the most, beneficial things you can do. The children have reading diaries to record their home reading and these will be checked weekly. The school expectation is that this is completed *at least four times a week*- doing so will enter your child into the weekly prize draw! If any adults are able to volunteer any of their time to read with children during an afternoon, then please contact class teachers.

Class Dojo

Your child's dojo account will have been transferred up from their previous teacher to their new Year 6 teacher. Please let us know if there are any issues with this or if you have not yet signed up. Messages previously sent to last year's teachers will not transfer to Year 6. Via class dojo, you will be able to see messages sent out by the teachers and communications can be made to your child's class teacher through this too.

Dojo is useful for quick communications about important things such as curriculum news or to ask questions and should be your first 'port of call' if you have any concerns. Class teachers aim to respond to all messages within 24 hours during the working week. However, teachers will not respond to messages after 6pm. For messages regarding absence or any prolonged communications or difficulties, please continue to email or phone the school office.

A Few Reminders:

- Berrywood Primary School is now a smartphone-free school for pupils. Children must not bring smartphones or internet-enabled personal devices (i.e. smartwatch) onto the school site at any time.
- The children should only be bringing in water in their bottles.
- At break time, the children may have a fruit or vegetable snack which they bring in. We request that when bought in, as little packaging as possible is used.

Ancient Greece

Our project this half term will be centred around Ancient Greece. We will be exploring what it was like to live in Ancient Greece as well as unpicking and exploring the legacy of this time period upon more modern civilisations. Amongst a wide range of aspects, the children will be learning about Greek democracy, daily life, famous Greeks and the Olympic games. The children will be asked to think critically about which aspect of Ancient Greek life has had the greatest influence on society today and why they believe this is.

During our first week back, we were lucky enough to be being visited by Portals to the Past, who ran an all-day Greek workshop. This hook provided the children with a fantastic, interactive experience and enable them to widen their knowledge of the ancient Greek civilisation, exploring a range of concepts including warfare, different city states and ways of life for civilians. This will link into a wide plethora of the children's learning in their project lessons but also across other subjects. In their English work, the children will be writing their own myths as well as creating informative non-chronological reports about some of the Greek Gods and Goddesses.

The Eighth Wonder of the World

In the second half term, our project work will centre on the children's creation of 'The Eighth Wonder of the World'. An architect, who will explain their role as well as discuss some of their own work and famous structures from around the world, will visit and launch the project. Following this, the children will be tasked with designing and building their own model structure, with focus on location, purpose and sustainability. During this project, our celebration event will comprise of a 'Big Build Morning' on Friday 4th December, where parents and caregivers will be invited to assist in the construction of the children's projects and help in bringing their ideas to reality.

Residential Trip

We are incredibly excited for our upcoming residential trip to Osmington Bay from 19th October – 23rd October. A parental presentation for this will happen on Wednesday 7th October. We will also be delivering an assembly to the children around this time and answering the many questions they will undoubtedly have. The trip is always an incredible experience for the children to develop new skills, work as a team and build both their confidence and independence.

Autumn term curriculum

English:

- Non-chronological reports
- Writing myths
- Biographical writing
- Persuasive letters
- Narratives with alternative structures
- Let's Think in English

Science:

- Light
- Electricity

Art:

- Perspective drawings

DT:

- Designing and building strong structures
- Making sustainable choices
- Using circuits in a structure

Music:

- Writing compositions

RE:

- Laws
- Death ceremonies

Maths:

- Numbers and the number system
- Addition and subtraction methods
- Addition and subtraction within contexts
- Multiplication and division methods
- Multiplication and division within contexts
- Fractions (multiplying and dividing)
- Linking fractions, decimals and percentages

History:

- The Ancient Greeks
- Making historical enquiries

PE:

- Outdoor Adventurous Activities
- Greek Dance
- Gymnastics
- Basketball

PDL:

- Health and wellbeing
- Friendships

Computing:

- Coding

We very much look forward to working alongside you and sharing the children's last year at Berrywood. If at any point you have any concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. We hope that the children will have a very successful final year at Berrywood and enjoy the responsibilities and privileges that come with being Year 6.

Yours sincerely,
The Year 6 Team