

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 of Berrywood is an opportunity to continue to develop rich critical and creative thinking and that it is filled with many new, exciting learning opportunities and chances to positively impact the school. Upon the children's return to school, they will be finding out about some of these opportunities and the potential to undertake wider school roles and responsibilities.

Our learning will focus a lot of the application of children's ideas and ways of 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

- New spellings set
- Spelling test
- Outdoor PE

Wednesday: - Reading diaries checked

- Library (please ensure your child has their library book in school to change weekly on a Wednesday).

Thursday: – Indoor PE

Friday: – Homework due for completion

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

Home Learning

During term time, the children will have weekly homework based on learning in class, alternating between maths and English. Homework will be set and completed online through www.maths.co.uk and <https://www.spag.com/>.

The children will be given a log in for each of these which will be recorded 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 each week. If children are struggling with any aspect of their homework, they should see their teacher or LSA for support. Spellings will also be set on a Monday and can be accessed via the children's google classroom accounts, the details of which will also be stuck into reading diaries.

The importance in continuing to support your child regularly reading at home cannot be understated. This is one of, if not the most, beneficial things you and your child can do at home. The children will be given reading diaries to record their home reading and these will be checked in school weekly. The school expectation is that this is completed *at least four times a week*-doing so will also enter your child into the weekly prize draw!

Key Dates

05.09.2024	Greek workshop
25.09.2024	PGL parents meeting (17:30-18:00)
07.10.2024	PGL residential trip
18.10.2024	INSET day
21.10.2024	Autumn market
23.10.2024	Individual school photos
28.10.2024	Half-Term
03.11.2024	Fireworks Night
05.11.2024	Parents' Evening
07.11.2024	Parents' Evening
28.11.2024	KS2 Open mic night
29.11.2024	INSET day
06.12.2024	Big Build Celebration
06.12.2024	Christmas Fayre and Market
09.12.2024	Pantomime performance 1
10.12.2024	Pantomime performance 2
11.12.2024	Pantomime performance 3
12.12.2024	Pantomime performance 4
20.12.2024	Early finish option (13:15)

Class Dojo

Your child's dojo account will have been transferred from their previous teacher to their year 6 teacher. Please let us know if there are any issues with this. Any communication through dojo with previous teachers will not be transferred up. Via class dojo, you will be able to see dojo points earned by your child. 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. Unless in exceptional circumstances, teachers will not respond after 6pm. For communications regarding absence or any prolonged communications, please continue to email the school office or phone reception.

A few reminders:

- If your child is bringing a mobile phone to and from school, then a mobile phone contract needs to have been signed and completed by you and your child. These can be given to the children by their teacher
- When on school grounds, children should not be using their mobile phones and they should be switched off
- 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 critically exploring the legacy of ancient Greece upon more modern civilisation. Amongst a wide range of aspects, the children will be learning about Greek democracy, architecture, 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.

During our first week back, we are lucky enough to be being visited by Portals to the Past, who will be running an all-day Greek workshops. This hook will provide the children with a fantastic, interactive experience and enable them to widen their knowledge of the ancient Greek civilisation. 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.

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 6th December, where parents and caregivers will be invited to assist in the construction of the children's projects.

Residential Trip

We are incredibly excited for our upcoming residential trip to Osmington Bay from 7th October – 11^h October. A parental presentation for this will happen on Wednesday 25th September. 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
- Sustained 'Write on' tasks
- 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

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