

## Elder Class Newsletter Autumn 2018



Welcome to Elder class: the final year at All Saints'. We are very much looking forward to working with you and your child during the academic year. Year 6 promises to be a hardworking, exciting and immensely rewarding year, and one which presents a myriad of challenges and opportunities for the children to seize upon, in every area of school life.



### Planner

The planner is an important means of communication between home and school, and as such it should be brought to school daily. It can be used for parental messages and I would ask that if you write a message in it, you ask your child to hand their planner directly to me at morning registration so I see and reply to your message on the day it is written. I will endeavour to collect all planners in regularly for signing and it would be helpful if parents could also sign them regularly in order that we all know messages have been seen. Keeping a diary is a useful life skill, and the children are encouraged to record details of special events and outings, etc in their diaries for future reference.

### Homework

All homework should be completed carefully and accurately in a quiet environment. Children should try hard to complete the work that is set, but we would not expect them to spend any longer than the allocated time (30 minutes maximum) on a particular piece of homework. Children should be encouraged to check their work thoroughly. If your child encounters any difficulties with homework set, please write a note in their planner or on the homework itself in order to inform our assessments and to enable us to provide additional support if required.

Over the course of the week the children in Year 6 will be given the following homework:

- Weekly spellings – set Thursday and tested the following Thursday
- One piece of English work – set Thursday and due in following Monday
- One piece of Maths work – set Monday and due in Thursday
- 15 minutes of reading per night

In addition, I will set a half termly project style piece of homework linked to either science, history or geography.

Homework will commence next week (Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September). The children will have a maths homework folder and an English homework folder to enable me to have time to mark each piece of work. Maths homework will be sent home on a Monday and will be due in on Thursday whilst English homework will be sent home on Thursday and due in on the following Monday. Additional 'home learning tasks' might be sent home for maths from time to time: these will not be in the folder but on a piece of paper and will be due in the next day. These tasks should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

### Reading

We place a great emphasis on reading at All Saints' and feel it is very important that the children read every night. In support of this, there is an entire strand in the Saints' Award dedicated to reading (see below). In year 6, we will expect the pupils to be reading independently for at least 15 minutes daily. This should be recorded in your child's planner.

## **PE/Games**

PE (with Tom Bigg) Tuesday morning – rugby for first half term and gym for second half term.  
PE – team building activities (with Explore Outdoor) for the first half-term and then hockey with Jerry Herod for the second half term on Thursday afternoons.

Daily mile – Elder class will do a ten minute run as part of the whole school daily mile initiative on a Wednesday afternoon straight after lunch. They will change into trainers for this run but not full PE kit.

PE kit should be named and in school on Monday each week ready for the PE sessions. I would politely ask that small PE bags are used so they fit in the hanging space in class. A plastic bag for dirty trainers would be useful too so they can go back into the PE bag. A complete list of the PE kit requirements can be found on the school website.

## **Upcoming events**

Mr Gower, from King Edward VI Upper School, will be visiting All Saints' on 18<sup>th</sup> September and Miss King, from Sybil Andrews Academy, will be visiting before the end of the month to talk to parents about potential transition opportunities (letters will be sent home in due course).

Elder class will have the opportunity this term to take part in the 'Shakespeare Takeover Project' in conjunction with the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds. The children will have weekly workshops with a member of the theatre staff, watch a professional performance of Henry V and finally perform an abridged version of Henry V in conjunction with two other primary schools. This performance (on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November) will be at the Theatre Royal and tickets will be available from the box office in due course (more details to follow).

Parents' evenings are coming up later this half term – 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October. Again, further details will be sent home nearer the time.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, Elder class will be joining the rest of the school in our annual visit to the Theatre Royal to watch the pantomime. A letter will be sent home shortly.

## **The Year 6 SAINTS AWARD**

By the end of the summer term, we hope that each pupil will feel well prepared, full of self-belief and excited at the prospect of moving up to Year 7. It is our hope that they will embark upon the next phase of their education as independent and highly motivated learners, excited by the new challenges which lie ahead. Ensuring that each child is well prepared for their future school obviously features high on our agenda.

However, this is only a part of what we aim to provide in Year 6. We want our pupils to leave All Saints' CEVC Primary School with a real sense that Year 6 was a year to remember, one in which each and every pupil will feel an enormous sense of pride in their achievements across the curriculum. Year 6 should be a year where the children:

- have pushed themselves to achieve their best work at all times
- have challenged themselves as both a person and as a learner, with high aspirations
- have contributed significantly to the life of the school in its broadest sense
- have worked together as part of many different teams
- have approached problems and challenges, arriving at solutions and using initiative
- have performed in front of a variety of audiences with confidence

In order to encourage such a wide and varied range of challenges and personal achievement, Year 6 pupils will work towards their SAINTS award, which comprises 7 strands:

1. Service to the school
2. Presenting to an audience
3. Charitable, environmental, community work
4. Physical challenge
5. An extended project – individual choice in an area of personal interest
6. A reading challenge which will be ongoing throughout the year, exploring a wide variety of genres
7. Problem solving - using initiative, working as part of a team and ‘thinking outside the box’
8. Opportunities to showcase and share individual talents in, for example, music, sport, drama, art

Over the course of three terms, evidence in each Strand will be recorded (an example of a record is shown below) through a process of ongoing assessment, monitoring and guidance by the teaching staff, using a set of established success criteria. At the end of the year, following a rigorous assessment process, bronze, silver or gold certificates will be presented at the ‘Leavers’ Performance’ to the rest of the school.

<b>STRAND 1 - Service to school</b> <i>For example: office duties, supporting staff, working with school council, PTA etc.</i>		
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Evidence collected during the year</b>	<b>Staff signature / comments</b>
<b>(pass)</b> I have led circle time sessions with other classes and taken a full part in reading sessions with Acorn/Oak classes.		
<b>(merit)</b> I have performed additional duties throughout the year including regularly covering office duties and book shop		
<b>(distinction)</b> I have supported at a whole school event and have committed to covering office duties/book shop for the whole year.		

**This term in brief:**

Maths	Place value and rounding; Mental and written addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; Multiples, factors and prime numbers; Order of operations; Fractions – simplifying, adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing, decimal and percentage equivalents, compare and order fractions.
English	Visual literacy: narrative, descriptive writing; Henry V: drama, playscripts, performing, character description; World War I: diary entry, letters, non-chronological reports; Pantomime writing; Argument and debate.
History	The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England; World War I
Geography	Our changing world - describe and understand the key aspects of physical geography
Science	Biology: senses.

PE	Rugby; hockey; gymnastics; problem solving
Art/DT	Drawing, painting; food
Music	Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
French	Family members; description; food.
PSHE	E-safety; Enterprise
ICT/Computing	Search engines
RE	Christianity – Jesus as God incarnate & trinity

### **General**

If your child travels to or from school independently, please ask them to get a consent form from me for completion so we have written authority. Remember mobile phones must be handed in at registration time and will be given back at home time each day.

If you have any queries/concerns about your child or anything school-related, please do not hesitate to speak to me before or after school, put a note in your child's planner or alternatively drop me an email at [S.Kemp@allsaintsprimary.org](mailto:S.Kemp@allsaintsprimary.org)

