

SPINFIELD SCHOOL
Year Six Autumn Term 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn term, I am so pleased to be working in partnership with you. We have begun the year with the phrase 'hit the ground running' and this will continue as we work towards the inevitable SATs testing week in the summer term.

Important information

The email address for Year Six is: **Year6@spinfieldschool.co.uk**

Please use the email address for the following:

- ✓ Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher
- ✓ Arrangements for volunteering in class (particularly if these are subject to change)
- ✓ Time to Talk/Creative Corner presentations
- ✓ Queries regarding homework or spellings

Please note that information regarding absences must still be communicated via the school office, via a phone message. The above email address will not be monitored daily, so please continue to use home-school books where appropriate to communicate urgent information, such as changes to pick up arrangements. If these arrangements change on the day, please contact the school office.

I have planned a careful balance of hard work and great fun this term and I am sure it will be enjoyable and rewarding for all of us. Below is an outline of what your child will be learning this term.

Subject	1 st half term	2 nd half term
English	Narrative Poetry: we will be reading the narrative poem written by Alfred Noyes titled The Highwayman. We will explore the emotive and historical context in which it is written. Historical Stories: we will be reading the novel War Horse by Michael Morpurgo, and writing a variety of texts that reflect the historical context.	Historical stories: we will continue to explore the themes and relationships that arise within the text of War Horse. Recounts: we will continue with the theme of W/W1 by reading and writing recounts based on life in the trenches and our experiences of Remembrance day.
Maths	Application of skills through a variety of contexts: counting, partitioning and calculating, securing number facts, understanding shape and handling data and measures.	Application of skills through a variety of contexts: calculating, measuring and understanding shape, securing number facts, relationships and calculating.
Science	Completing a number of investigations exploring the topic of animals, including humans, including circulatory system, diet, drugs, transport of nutrients and water.	Completing a number of investigations exploring adaptation the topic of animals, including humans, including circulatory system, diet, drugs, transport of nutrients and water.
Computing	Online Safety: we will be exploring a variety of topics within the subject of staying safe online, including the use of smartphones and social media. Coding: we will be using 2Code (from the Purple Mash website) to create our own text adventure, based on World War One.	Spreadsheets: using purple mash programmes to create spreadsheets for a specific purpose (planning pocket money spending and a school event).
Humanities	Map skills / Locational Knowledge: we will identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the tropics of cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic circle.	

	DISCOVER! History topic based on World War One, linking our learning in History, English, the Arts.	
Art / DT	People and animals in action: we will be exploring how movement is represented in art – cross curricular link with English/War Horse	Textiles: we will be creating gifts as part of our mini enterprise project, using World War One as a theme, incorporating a variety of styles of embroidery.
PE	Gymnastics Hockey and Forest school	Swimming (Court Garden) Netball and Forest school
Music/Drama	Mrs Lee to lead a carousel of music lessons Drama linked to English texts	Mrs Lee to lead a carousel of music lessons Rehearsal for Christmas production
RE/PSHE	Religion through the Arts: we will be exploring how religion can be expressed through the arts. Growth Mindset: we will be exploring brain physiology and the concept of mindful attention.	Special Occasions (Christmas) Growth Mindset: we will be exploring brain physiology and the concept of mindful attention.
French	Places around school School subjects	School subjects Telling the time

To enhance the children's learning this term, we will be watching a matinee performance of War Horse at the brand new Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre on 24th October and we will also be taking part in the annual remembrance service on the causeway. Please keep an eye out for letters in your child's book bags for further details.

General Organisation:

Absence:

Please ring school on the first day of absence if your child is away. If you have not contacted school by **9.20am** a member of staff will contact you. You are not required to supply a note if you have contacted the school.

Homework:

We value the support of parents in providing the time, encouragement and suitable environment for the children in which to complete their homework. In setting homework for children, we aim to provide a relevant activity for them to do in which parents may be involved and which can aid their general educational progress. Homework will be set on a Wednesday and will need to be returned to school on a Monday morning.

Year six homework is outlined below:

Spellings: tested on Friday

Daily reading: reading records and school reading books to be in school each day

Reading comprehension

English

Mathematics

Parent volunteers:

I have detailed days and times when parental support is required in class. Please complete the acknowledgement slip to indicate when you are able to help.

DBS checks

Please note that the school requires parent helpers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality policy. Volunteers are also required to attend safeguarding training (which will need to be refreshed every 3 years). Training dates will be published in our monthly newsletter. If you have not yet filled out the DBS form and the confidentiality policy please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution in order for us to process the DBS form.

Please ensure that all letters or slips that are returned to school go directly to the class teacher via the book bag; please do not return them through the school office.

Daily organisation:

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day, as well as a snack of fruit or vegetables for the mid-morning break (KS2 only). KS1 children are provided with a fruit or vegetable snack; however they may bring one in from home if this is their preference.

It is imperative that all items of clothing and PE kit are clearly labelled (preferably sewn-on labels). If your child does not have his/her full PE kit (including appropriate socks) they may not be able to take part in the lesson. Please feel free to instruct your child to bring home kit to be laundered as required, however, please ensure that it is in school on PE days.

Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a Monday and Wednesday this term. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in a PE or games lesson, please provide a note.

Year Six will have their group reading session on Monday mornings between 9:00 and 9:30am, commencing on 23rd September. Please continue to support this; the children do still need adults to come into school to listen to them read and discuss the texts with them.

Library books will be changed on a Friday. All library books will be collected in during the penultimate week of term.

Forgotten Items:

Please be aware that if your child forgets something for school, you will only be contacted if it is absolutely necessary, as we are trying to encourage the children's independence. Any calls home will incur a 50 pence charge.

Medicines:

Children must not bring medicines of any kind into school without prior agreement with Miss Spreadbury. A health care form must be completed for any required administration of medication

Holidays:

The staff and governing body appreciate the decision made by parents not to take children out of school during term time. Where exceptional circumstances occur, a leave of absence form can be collected from Miss Spreadbury who will submit your application to the Governing Body for consideration.

School Governor Class link:

In order that the school governors can gain closer links with the pupils and staff, we have attached a governor to each of the classes in the school. Our class governor is to be confirmed. They will endeavour to make at least one visit to the class during the year and will support the class teacher by working with the children sharing his/her expertise in a relevant area or accompanying a school visit.

If you wish to discuss the content of this letter or have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Baxter or Miss Childs to make an appointment to see me.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Clarke and the Year Six team

Please return this acknowledgement.

Year 6 Autumn Term Class Letter

Child's Name _____

Please tick appropriate boxes:

I acknowledge receipt of the Y6 Autumn Term Class Letter.

I am able to help on the following days:

☐

Forest school

(Monday afternoons)

☐

Swimming

(Wednesday afternoons after half term)

☐

Group Reading

(Monday mornings)

Parent Signature