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11th January 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas, the children have rested over the break and feel refreshed ready for the new term. Unbelievably, we are already a third of the way through Year 6 and our first term has certainly flown by! This year has contained so many exciting and stimulating learning experiences as we were transported back in time to World War II; our curriculum has been jam-packed with our creative day, trip to Winchester Military Museums, incredible war-themed writing learning journeys, building and testing of Anderson Shelters and so much more! The children have worked exceptionally hard and we are proud of their efforts across the curriculum. In particular, their use of formal methods, experimenting with punctuation, tackling of arithmetic challenges and building suspense in their writing. But as we are now looking forward to the Spring Term, we hope that they continue to further develop and embed these key skills and knowledge.

Our overarching themes this term are 'Our Local Area' followed by 'Healthy Humans'. Within these topics, we will be learning about local history and using our map skills to read and create maps of Yateley. We will also explore the parts of the human circulatory system and the impact of diet and exercise on the human body. During these units, the children will be partaking in a variety of cross-curricular learning such as our DT project (moving shop windows), learning about electrical circuits as well as exploring Crumble software in Computing. Overleaf you will find our topic web with an overview of our curriculum coverage for the term.

We could not avoid mentioning that this term is particularly important for Year 6 as they prepare for their End of Key Stage Assessments which will take place in May. In order to answer any questions you may have in relation to the arrangements for preparing and administering these tests, we will be holding a briefing to provide key information so please do try to join us at **6.00pm on Wednesday 16th January**.

General Reminders:

- Reading with an adult – Although our children are generally fluent and accurate readers, opportunities to read with an adult remain vitally important. Not only does this give our children the opportunity to develop their expression when reading out loud, it also provides an opportunity to ensure understanding through comprehension, reasoning skills by discussing vocabulary and answering questions about what they have read. If you are unsure about how you can support your child with this, feel free to chat to one of the Year 6 Team or take a look at the parent resources on our school website.
- Spellings – Learning of weekly spellings is important as it has a positive impact on the children's writing across the curriculum. If your child has misplaced their spelling booklet, they are always on display in our classrooms or, alternatively, spelling lists can be found on the school website on our Year Group Pages. Once again we would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to practice these at home.
- Home Learning - As well as weekly spellings, reading and number facts, we will continue to send home weekly English and Maths home learning, set on a **Thursday** and due in the following **Tuesday**. If your child does not have a copy of their home learning, please visit the 'Pupils' tab on the Westfields Junior School website.
- PE kits – Due to the unpredictable British weather, please can all children have their PE kit in school throughout the week as this is an important, statutory element of our curriculum and although we do have set days for PE lessons these are subject to change. As temperatures remain chilly please also ensure that this includes plain black tracksuit bottoms and a black Westfields sweatshirt. All kit should be clearly named.

Finally, we would be delighted to welcome parents into school to read and work with individuals and small groups of children. If you are able to support in any way, please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you for your continuing support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Long
Year 6 Team Leader and Class Teacher

Mrs Parker
Year 6 Class Teacher

Miss Creelie
Year 6 Class Teacher

Parental Engagement
Quality Standard

