

Westfields

JUNIOR SCHOOL

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3rd May 2019

Dear Parents,

As part of our continual monitoring and improvement of the curriculum that we provide for your children, I would like to inform you about a new learning tool which we are implementing throughout the school.

Our curriculum is full of engaging and enjoyable topics, lessons and learning opportunities and at the crux of it lies the content of the National Curriculum, which we have to follow, as well as content we want children to know and experience. What is key is that children leave us not just with skills but the knowledge which will provide them with the essential foundations for the next part of their educational journey and beyond.

A problem schools are facing is, with so much content to teach, how can children leave each age and stage of their time with us being able to recall and use the knowledge taught to them? To help us meet this challenge, we are producing 'Knowledge Organisers'. These are one page documents that outline a summary of the essential knowledge that the teachers will be covering across a topic or unit of work. They will include a variety of information e.g. key dates, key people, key vocabulary, definitions, maps and images and other important information which will give your child a head start in their learning and they will help your child understand their learning in greater depth. They can also be used to make links through learning and will support your child in retaining and remembering the key knowledge.

To begin with, we are going to use them for topics and for RE. Prior to a topic or unit of work starting, your child will bring home their Knowledge Organiser so that they can share it with you. It would benefit your child if you spent time with your child and their organiser, discussing each aspect of the page, going over any unknown words, sharing what you know and exploring the topic even further before they start learning at school. Through the topic, you can refer to the Knowledge Organisers. Your child could highlight parts they remember or have learnt about in class and you could use them as fun ways to check your child's understanding. At the end of the topic, you can see what they have remembered. At school, the Knowledge Organisers will be shared with the children and they will be referred to, annotated and added to throughout the teaching of each topic.

Knowledge Organisers for the next topic and RE unit will be coming home shortly via home learning folders. They will also be available in the Year Group sections of the school website. We hope you and your child find them useful.

Kind regards,



Mrs Jo Wilson
Deputy Headteacher

