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UNITE - INSPIRE - EXCEL

10th January 2020

Dear Parents.

We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas and we are sure the children will have rested over the break and are feeling refreshed and 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 already contained so many exciting and stimulating learning experiences; 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 and tackling of arithmetic challenges have been a focus. 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 theme this term is 'Location, Location'. Within this topic, we will be investigating the geographical and physical features of the UK, with a focus on our local area. Our study will include using our mapping knowledge to create an accurate map of Yateley and compare land use to the nearby town of Camberley. Alongside this, we will be exploring different locations within our English learning journeys. During these units, the children will be partaking in a variety of cross-curricular learning such as our locally sourced products within our DT project (Fruit Tarts) and local landscapes in Art.

We could not avoid mentioning that this term is particularly important for Year 6 as they complete their final preparations for their End of Key Stage Assessments which will take place in May. It is important that the children remain focussed and driven as they approach their transition into secondary education by continuing to complete home learning activities to consolidate classroom learning.

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 and 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 talk with one of the Year 6 team or review our support materials on the 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, spelling lists can be found on the school website on our year group page. Once again we would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to regularly practice these at home.
- Home Learning As well as weekly spellings, reading and number facts, each week your child will receive reading, grammar and
 maths home learning activities. These will continue to be set on a **Thursday** and are due in the following **Tuesday**. If your child
 does not have a copy of their home learning, please visit the 'Pupils' tab on the school website.
- PE kits As ever, 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 to 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

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.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Long Year 6 Team Leader Miss Barrand Year 6 Class Teacher

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