Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to you all! It has been lovely to see all of the children return from their summer holidays eager to learn. The term ahead will be busy with the children gaining extra responsibilities around school as Year 6 pupils and also gaining privileges over the coming weeks.

Teaching in Swift Class this year will be Mrs Firman at the start of the week, followed by Ms Ladbrooke on a Thursday and Friday. We will be supported in Swift Class by Mrs Winter and Mrs Mayes. Mrs Newson will continue to teach P.E as well as Ms McLaughlin who will teach the children's RE lesson each week.

The following information should hopefully help to make the transition to Year 6 as smooth as possible.

Curriculum

This term, the overarching theme for our learning is 'Unity'.

Our project work will incorporate History, Geography, Computing, RE, Science, Art and DT strands. In humanities we will be investigating the impact of World War 2 on the people of Britain. In the second half term, we will be learning about hot biomes around the world. In Science we will be looking at space, followed by the properties of materials and in Art, we will be considering bold colours; how they are used and the impact they have.

To begin the year, we will be using the picture book, Rose Blanche, which explores war from an individual child's perspective. We will be focusing on narrative form and author perspective, using drama, poetry and discussion to aid our writing choices.

In maths, we will start the year ensuring our knowledge of place value is sound before moving on to addition and subtraction.

PE

Swift Class will have PE on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. Children will need to come to school in their PE kit on those days. A spare pair of shoes in school may also be useful if the children wish to use all surfaces outside on rainy/unsettled days.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning will take place regularly for Year 6 pupils, led by Ms Ladbrooke. We will inform you when these sessions will take place so that the children have wellies and a raincoat or winter coat in school on these days.

Reading books

We will be visiting the library once a week as well as having a selection of books in our class reading corner. Some children may wish to bring their own book in from home instead. As will be shared in the homework menu, we encourage the children to read independently or with a parent/sibling on a daily basis at home. This really helps to build stamina for reading. We will be completing some reading journal activities every week in school based on the books we read.

Pencil cases and other equipment

The children are welcome to keep a small pencil case in their bags with pencils or pens they would like to use for artistic work; we will however provide all other equipment for writing and day to day learning.

We encourage children to leave their own fidgets at home and will be providing generic fidgets in class for the children to access.

Homework

The children will have a homework book which needs to be brought in to school each day. You will find a new homework menu for the term inside as well as a new Seesaw login. We will use Seesaw throughout the year to send information, share achievements and as a means for the children to share homework tasks completed. Please note that the children should be completing at least **four** of the given tasks across the term, including the weekly tasks. If your child is having difficulties completing homework, please get in touch to see how we can support them.

We will not be sending weekly spellings home this year, instead we will send you an overview of the spelling rule we are learning and a list of words using that spelling rule. The children will not be tested weekly, but instead we will look to use the words in our writing sessions accurately in school. The children are very welcome to use some time at home testing themselves on these words to gain familiarity but there will be no distinct test in school.

We recognise this is a lot of information to share at one time, and will look to upload a copy of this onto Seesaw for reference. If you have any further queries or concerns, please feel free to contact us via the school office or catch us at the end of the school day.

Kind regards,

Jo Firman and Zoe Ladbrooke