

Top tips for Year 6 parents - How you can help your child!



- Encourage your child to read every day - 20 minutes would be ideal in order to gain signatures towards their Eager Reader step ladder.
- You can support your child by exploring their understanding of what they have read e.g. Describe what has happened so far. How does a character feel, what do you think they will do next and why? Would you recommend this book to a friend?
- Practising times tables at any available time – in the queue at the supermarket, in a traffic jam etc. Also practise division facts from the times tables e.g. $2 \times 5 = 10$ so $10 \div 2 = 5$, then move onto decimal facts e.g. $0.2 \times 7 = 1.4$.
- Practise using maths in real-life situations e.g. reading timetables, money (how much change will you get?), telling the time with analogue & digital clocks, converting from 12 hour to 24 hour time and working out the duration of events.
- Make sure your child goes to sleep at a reasonable time. Year 6 is a challenging year; your child will have a much better chance of grasping difficult concepts if they arrive at school well-rested.
- The school have subscribed to Spelling Shed, Times Table Rockstarz and Read Theory so your children have their login details for these websites.
- Encourage your child to become more independent – they will need to be next year. Help them to develop strategies for making sure they have everything they need at school rather than packing their bag for them!
- Take an interest in their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- To develop speaking and listening skills, encourage your child to explain things to you as clearly as possible. This could also apply to skills of persuasion or instructions. For example, only let your child watch that special TV program if they can successfully persuade you using good persuasive language and reasoning.
- Ask general knowledge questions such as countries and their capitals, or basic scientific facts/vocabulary. Does your child know the location of major countries? What language do they speak there?
- As they become more independent, many Year 6 children begin to walk to school on their own. This is a good time to revise road safety strategies.

Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child is **on-time** for school every day. Our school timings are back to normal. Children should be on the yard for 8.45, ready for the doors to open at 8.50am. Good **attendance** is important - has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.

Grangetown Primary School ~ Enjoy - Respect - Achieve

Welcome to Year 6



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the second half of Autumn term! We hope that you have had a lovely half term break and that you are looking forward to what we have planned this half term. We are going to have a fantastic half term and we have lots of wonderful learning activities planned for the children.

We hope that by working together we can make this term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

Coming up this half term we will be learning lots of interesting facts and information in a range of subjects. This half term there will also be an opportunity for parents and carers to come into school to work with their children during a parent workshop.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.20 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

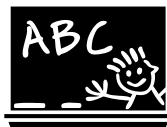
Yours sincerely

Miss Stell and Miss Hunter



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders...



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on the school yard by 8.45. This means that they are ready for the doors opening at 8.50 and they can take part in their early bird tasks.

End of the day. Children should be collected at 3.20. Children who do not walk home on their own should be picked up by their parents or carers from the door located next to nursery.

Uniforms and Coats. As the oldest in the school, Year 6 set the example, so we would be grateful if you could make every effort to ensure that your child wears full school uniform at all times - including black school shoes. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather is warm that morning. The English weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

PE. This term P.E. lessons will be on a **Monday afternoon**. Children can attend school dressed in their P.E. kits. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including comfortable black plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back. Year 6 will need PE clothing on a Friday if they are taking part in the lunchtime football.

Reading. Your child has a daily reading session with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned everyday. A shared reading session at home is very valuable. You can write a comment or simply sign your child's Home-Link Reading Record Book so they can move on our Eager Reader's race.

Learning and Home: As per our new learning at home agreement, children are expected to read at home at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes. Children should also be practising their times tables and spellings multiple times per week. Your child will have a new spelling rule sent home each Friday, please discuss this with them. Please return home work books each Wednesday.

Finally can we please remind parents that jewellery, sweets (including **chewing gum**) and mobile phones are not allowed in school as responsibility can not be taken for any loss or damage.

Thank you for your continued support - it really makes a difference!

This term's 'Learning Theme' This half term, Children will be learning about the world. They will be reading a narrative where the main character goes on a journey around the world. They will be learning about the continent of Europe, its physical features and about how artists show important messages, such as climate change, through their art work.

English: In English we will be reading 'The Ship of Shadows' and using this as a basis for writing our own five part narratives. The children will be learning how different authors build tension, including using figurative language, effective questions and using pronouns in place of nouns. The children will also be looking at non-chronological reports where they will use comparative language to compare two countries. They are going to be looking at adding additional detail by using parenthesis marked by brackets, commas and dashes.

Maths: In maths, the children will be learning how to use written methods for both multiplication and division. They will then look at order of operations (BODMAS). They will be working out the values of prime and cubed numbers as well as identifying prime numbers. We will also begin our unit of work on fractions where the children will learn to simplify, multiply, add, subtract, compare and order fractions. We will also be building on our reasoning and problem solving skills through a range of questions to further our learning as well as in our reasoning and problem solving lessons.

Geography: In geography we will be looking in detail at where we live. We will discuss the town, city, country and continent in which we live. We will be identifying countries within Europe and their capital cities. Children will be identifying the physical features of the European continent and naming the countries these are located in. Children will choose one country to learn about in depth and research the capital city, preparing a non-fiction text to show what they have learnt.

Science: This half term children will be learning all about the functions of organs in our bodies. They will begin by recapping their previous learning about drugs and whether or not all drugs are bad for us. We will discuss the use of medicines and how they can help us to overcome illnesses. We will then look at the heart and how blood is transported through our bodies.

ICT: This half term we will be looking at virtual reality. The children will be using online software in order to add, move and resize objects in a virtual reality environment. The children will learn how virtual reality can be used to help people.

Art: Children are going to be learning how artists show messages through their art. They will be learning how to shade to create shadow and light, whilst also making shapes appear 3D. They will re-create the work of an artist in order to show the effects of climate change.

French: In French, the children will be learning how to have a conversation about the activities which they like to do in their free time. They will be able to state facts such as why they enjoy these activities, where they go for them and what their purpose is.

Music: In music the children will be looking at the theme 'how can music unite us?' They will be doing lots of rhythm work and will learn the song 'Dancing in the street.'

P.E. Gymnastics: In PE children will be composing and performing a routine including a range of shapes, balances and ways of travelling. They will also practice jumping from a height using a range of apparatus.