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 Year 6 Newsletter

We have had such a great start to the year and cannot wait to continue with our fantastic achievements during Autumn Two.

**We have an open morning on Tuesday 13th November, we would love for you to pop in between 9.00am and 12.00pm to see some of our fantastic work during our science week!**

Y6 is a very important year. During the summer term, children will sit their SATs tests. These tests not only give secondary schools an indication of children’s understanding but also impact upon their expected GCSE grades. It is therefore vital that children attend school every day, as every missed day has a negative impact on your child’s progress. Also please ensure that your child is punctual so they do not miss any key learning at the start of the day. If your child has been asked to attend boosters, please ensure that they regularly attend these in order to ensure they make good progress.

**Messages from religion**

During this half term, our topic is ‘Messages from religion’. During this topic, we will be exploring different religions and their impact on community. We will be exploring what messages we can take from religion and discuss how we can put these positive ideas into action.

**Evolution and inheritance.**

This half term we will be exploring evolution and inheritance during our science week. During this topic, we will be exploring the impact that scientists have had on our understanding, we will even be making our own fossils!. We will also have opportunities to explore different elements of evolution and inheritance, discovering how living things have changed over time. We will choosing an animal and considering how it could evolve over time.

**English**

Over the half term, we aim to cover a range of genres including; a biography, a story, poetry and a report. During our lessons, we will be developing our use of punctuation and vocabulary and how using these effectively can positively impact upon our writing. In addition to this, we will have daily handwriting and spelling lessons where we aim to develop children’s understanding and add to their prior knowledge.

**Mathematics**

We will begin this term by applying our understanding of angles, measures, algebra, area and volume, place value and fractions decimals and percentages. In addition to these daily morning sessions we are have mental arithmetic lessons for 20 minutes each afternoon to ensure fluency in each child’s number facts and times tables. It is vital that all children are secure in their knowledge of these number facts. We therefore strongly encourage children to continue to practise their times tables at home using Timestable Rockstars.

**PE**

This year, Year 6 will be receiving PE lessons on a Thursday. We are very lucky to have a PE coach at Birklands, who will being teaching the children a range of skills. In order to take part, children need to be wearing their PE kit, which includes a white t shirt, black shorts and trainers. Please ensure these are in school at the start of each week to enable your child to participate in sessions.

**Homework**

It is expected that children read at home at least four times each week. Reading is such an essential skill, particularly in year six. The more your child reads, the better their reading, comprehension, spelling and writing will become. Whenever your child reads at home, please sign their reading diary. These reading diaries need to be brought to school each day. Maths, English or topic homework is set each Thursday and should be handed in no later than the following Tuesday. Homework will always link to the work in class that week. Therefore, it is essential that your child brings their homework in on time so that they are prepared for their new learning.

**Booster classes**

We are committed to ensuring that each child makes excellent progress at Birklands. If your child is selected to attend any booster classes after school, we ask that they do attend regularly. These sessions are fun and interactive and will give your child the skills to access the learning and the SATS papers! They build on the pupil’s knowledge, in preparation for SATs and their journey towards being secondary school ready.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and see us or give us a phone call!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Henderson