



St George's Primary School

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Year 6 Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

The Year 6 team and I would like to formally welcome you back to St George's after the summer holidays.

We are delighted with the start that we have made this year and I am excited about my role as the new Assistant Head Teacher for Years 5 and 6. We have got a very exciting year ahead and we are really looking forward to getting to know you and your children. If you need to contact me, please do so through the school office or e-mail me at schooloffice@stgeorges.wirral.sch.uk. Initially we ask that all queries are relayed to your child's class teacher. However, if you do have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Cassidy, the staff and I agree that we have had an excellent start to the year. The children have settled well into the new classes and we have been really impressed by their conduct and attitudes to learning. We are determined that this will be a brilliant year for your children. We will be promoting excellence in learning and attitudes to learning.

This is our first year group newsletter and it includes the relevant updates for the next four months ahead. All other newsletters will be sent electronically via the school app/email. Please make sure we have your email address so you can receive them.

This year your teachers will be:

- 6A – Mrs Taylor
- 6B – Mrs Palmi
- 6C – Mrs Bowden-Pickstock
- 6D – Mrs Roberts

I will be teaching the additional groups for maths and English. We will also be supported by Mrs Roberts and Miss Pickering. We are very fortunate to also have the support of Mrs Rice, who is our learning mentor. As you may be aware, Miss Newton got married over the summer holidays and returns as Mrs Roberts.

Welcome Meeting – Tuesday 17th September at 5.00pm.

We have arranged a welcome meeting for some key information, a recap of secondary transfer and information on year 6 residential trip. The meeting is also an important chance for you to meet your child's class teachers.

You will find information from the meeting, key dates for this year along with lots of other important information on the school's website:

<http://www.stgeorges.wirral.sch.uk/class/year-6>

We will be adding information to this page about our school year throughout year 6.

Grammar School Entry Examinations

Children participating in grammar school and BHSA entrance examinations completed their school support with Mr Cassidy at the end of Year 5. Key dates are:

- 23rd SEPTEMBER 2019 11+ assessments (taken at test centre)
- 20th SEPTEMBER 2019 St Anselms Test (check school website for further information)
- 12th OCTOBER 2019 BHSA banding and music assessments
- 21st OCTOBER 2019 Results to parents by this date
- 31st OCTOBER 2019 Deadline for secondary preference forms apply online at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions.
- 1st MARCH 2020 ALLOCATION DAY

It is vital that parents remember that they must bring a proof of identification form for the grammar school entrance examinations. Parents should have been notified where their child is taking the examination via e-mail from Wirral Council.

More details on school's website:

<http://www.stgeorges.wirral.sch.uk/page/grammar-school-entrance-examination-11/44054>

We can confirm that children attending the exams will be marked in as attending school. They will be registered as being educated off site.

Year 6 Home Learning:

This year, we will be using a program called Accelerated Reader in order to closely monitor progress in reading. Children will work through books that are pitched at an appropriate reading and comprehension level. These levels are assessed using a reading assessment that the children completed in the summer term. The children will read daily and then complete a quiz in school to check on their understanding of what they have read. Teachers will monitor their progress through the books and quizzes and will listen to children reading during their daily lessons. In order for this system to work we need children to bring their reading book and log book every day. (Reading log books will be arriving very soon!)

All children will bring home their book each evening. Children must read at least 4 times a week at home and record this in their reading log. Alongside this, children will be bringing weekly spellings home to practise ready for their weekly spelling test in class.

In mathematics children will be expected to complete a weekly task from their new home learning logs. The booklet comprises of games and activities to keep those mathematical skills sharp. These will be on show during our Meet the Teachers meeting later next week.

After half term all children will be given maths, reading and grammar books to be completed as part of their home learning.

Zumos and Year 6

This year we have signed up to Zumos <https://www.zumos.co.uk/>. This website is to support children's well-being and promote happiness and positive thinking. Children will be given passwords and lessons on how to use the site in school. As well as being able to play lots of games and activities, the children will be able to use the online system to send concerns to their teacher, including reporting any incidents of bullying. We see this as a positive move towards providing children with a safe platform to self-empower and to take control over their own well-being.

Year 6 PE

All classes will have PE with our specialist sports teachers on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times. Sports clubs will take place throughout the year and letters will be sent out in due course. PE kits should be a white t-shirt and black shorts or tracksuit bottoms. Children should NOT be wearing football tops or brightly coloured tracksuits for their PE lessons.

Year 6 Curriculum

Throughout this half term, Year 6 will be developing their historical skills through a short study of the Slave Trade. We will be using our computing skills to map the routes of triangular trade as well as reading some

real-life examples of what life was like as a slave. To enhance children's learning, we will also be reading 'Henry's Freedom Box' in English. After half term Year 6 will be studying both WWI and WWII focussing on their impact on our local area. We will be visiting the Imperial War Museum in November as part of this.

As part of our science curriculum this half term, children will be learning all about Classification. We will be looking carefully at how to sort various plants and animals, where and why classification originated and creating our own classification keys.

Shakespeare for Schools Festival

Some of our children will have the opportunity to take part in the Shakespeare for Schools festival that will take place at the Floral Pavilion on 11th November. We have started the new school year studying the story of Romeo and Juliet, this has included an exciting drama workshop. 30 children will be selected to take part in this event. Unfortunately, 30 is the maximum that we can take so children have been asked to audition for the parts. However, the show is open to anyone who would like to watch the performances and tickets can be purchased through the Floral Pavilion.

Bikeability

Children in year 6 will be offered the opportunity to take part in Bikeability on Tuesday 8th or Wednesday 9th October. More details of this will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Year 6 Residential Trip

Just a reminder that Year 6 are off on their residential trip to Condover Hall on 6th-8th November. Final balance must be paid in full on Parent Pay by Friday 27th September. If the balance is not paid by this date, your child's place will have to be cancelled.

Children not attending the trip will still attend school and have lessons for those three days.

Parent Support

At St George's we really do appreciate the help and support that we get from the parents. We are always grateful for parent helpers, especially for school trips, which cannot go ahead without your help. If you have time to spare and think you could offer support, on a more regular basis, please speak to your class teacher who will be able to arrange this. If you can help in anyway do let us know. DBS checks need to be carried out for all helpers in classrooms; this can be arranged via the school office.

RESPECT and Behaviour

During this half term the children will be learning about **RESILIENCE** and what this means to them. They will be thinking about how they can use resilience to overcome difficulties and to help them to progress academically and socially. Each week the teachers will nominate one child that they have noticed being resilient. These children will be known as our 'Learning Heroes'. They will receive a special certificate in assembly and will have their picture displayed on the wall. During the first week back at school the children have created class charters in which they discuss their own roles and responsibilities with regards to their behaviour and conduct in school. It has been a very positive way to start the school year with the children keen to follow their charters and stay in the positive behaviour zones: look out for your child coming home with a blue or gold sticker!

We are very much looking forward to the fantastic year ahead of us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Horton and the Year 6 Team