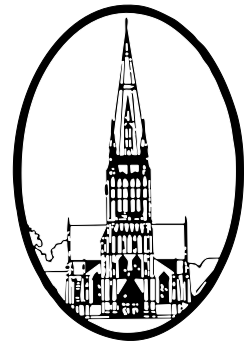


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Headteacher: Jane O'Brien

*'Through God's love, we strive to be
the best we can be.'*

Thursday 06th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had an enjoyable summer holiday. I'm really enjoying getting to know the fabulous children of Year 6! As I am new to school I will tell you a little about myself. My name is Bryn Tittle and this is my 8th year of teaching and my 5th year in Year 6. I previously worked at Hugh Myddelton Primary School in Islington. So far I am really enjoying the close community at St Mary's and how helpful and supportive all of the staff, pupils and parents I have met have been.

SATs

Having worked in Year 6 for many years now, I know that SATs can cause some anxiety for both parents and pupils. We will be doing regular mock tests throughout the year which will serve to give children confidence going into the real thing and enable me to identify gaps in their knowledge.

SATs week

Monday	Spelling, punctuation and grammar
Tuesday	Reading
Wednesday	Arithmetic (Maths paper 1) and Reasoning (Maths paper 2)
Thursday	Reasoning (Maths paper 3)

Autumn 1 overview

Here is an overview of the topics that will be covered in the different curriculum areas.

Literacy	The first book we will be reading is 'The Last Wild' by Piers Torday. This term the children will be consolidating their ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• retrieve information from a text,• make inferences from a text.• make predictions
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpret information in tables <p>Spelling, grammar and punctuation will continue to be taught throughout the term. Now that your child has a grounding in grammar, we will be looking at each area in more depth starting with nouns and followed by verbs.</p>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value • Number facts such as primes, squares, multiples and factors. • written strategies for arithmetic • mental strategies for arithmetic • working systematically to solve problems • ratio and proportion (including fractions)
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor PE (Wednesday) Gymnastics • Outdoor PE (Friday) Netball/Basketball
PHSCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding our feeling and the feelings of others.
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the Christian message survived over time
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of Year 5 learning • Food – including role play of ordering in a Spanish restaurant

PE

Your child's PE days are **Monday** and **Friday**.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit on **both** of these days.

Friday will be outdoor PE even in cold weather so you might want your child to have a jumper and/or jogging bottoms.

Homework

Homework will be sent out every **Friday** and returned the following **Thursday**.

Reading

We expect that your child reads on a daily basis for 10 – 20 minutes and that you sign your child's reading log to say that they have done this. Please also discuss the book's plot and characters as well as the meaning of new words. This will help to develop comprehension skills. Please remember to reread the whole sentence once a tricky word has been solved. This helps to develop fluency. The Reading Record needs to come in every **Friday** with the whole week signed for.

I will be motivating the children with their reading by giving them achievements to unlock (inspired by popular computer games). Some of these will include reading multiple books by the same author or on a similar subject.

Times Tables

By the end of Year 5, children are expected to know their **all** the times tables off by heart, as well as related division facts. In Year 6 the challenge is to recall these facts quickly and to be able to apply them to related decimals and in practical problem solving.

For example:

$$8 \times 7 = 56 \quad 7 \times 8 = 56 \quad 56 \text{ divided by } 7 = 8 \quad 56 \text{ divided by } 8 = 7$$

$$0.8 \times 7 = 5.6 \quad 70 \times 80 = 5600 \text{ etc.}$$

Please ensure your child practises the times tables on a daily basis as part of their homework routine. They will initially have a set times-table to learn a week. Please do not be alarmed if your child is set a times table they are already familiar with. It will be so that they can increase speed and fluency.

Drinking water and fruit

We encourage children to drink water throughout the day. Please ensure your child brings in a **named** water bottle in school. Your child is also encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at breaktime.

Finally, I would just like to remind you that the school gates open at 8.50am each morning and that your child should be settled in class by 9am when learning starts. So far I have been really impressed by the punctuality and attendance of Year 6!

Please remember that the school day ends at 3.30pm and that children must be collected on time. If you would like your child to be able to go home alone then please speak to Ms Kennedy in the school office. It is important that staff are able to prepare lessons and attend staff meetings directly after school; therefore parents of children that are collected late will be fined £10.

I look forward to working with you all during what I'm sure will be a successful school term. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come and talk to me in the playground after school or make an appointment with me at the school office.

Yours Sincerely,
Mr Tittle