**Year 5/6 Welcome Meeting - Tuesday 3rd September**

Email addresses:

Cabot: cabot@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Miss Alice Potter, Year Group Leader

Muller: muller@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mr Ben Allcock

Brunel: brunel@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Miss Katie Boyce

Campbell: campbell@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mr Harry Hughes

Guppy: guppy@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mrs Laura Swithinbank (Mon-Weds) / Mrs Cat Mullick (Thurs – Fri)

School website: [www.stjohnsprimary.org.uk](http://www.st-johns.bristol.sch.uk/)

* Email is the best way of communication; please remember that if you find yourself writing more than a paragraph, it would be better to meet in person. First thing in the morning as the children are coming in is not a great time to speak to the class teacher (if it’s an emergency, fine!) Please pop in after school or email to make an appointment to see your child’s class teacher.

Curriculum:

* We try to teach as cross curricular as possible with many subjects linking to each other.
* Each new topic will have a wow day/experience, for example our trip to the Steam Museum on Friday 4th October (see emailed letter or website)
* Topics covered this year:

Term 1&2 – Word War II; Term 3&4 – Rainforests; Term 5 – Six Weeks of the Greeks; Term 6 – TBC (play-based)

* Parent Pop Ins twice a term – dates on the calendar.
* End of topic presentations – parents invited in to look at the work children have done over the term.

VE Day celebration towards the end of term 2 (date TBC)

* PE will be every Wednesday and Friday for all Y5/6. Please make sure the children have their correct kit for these days including daps/trainers, black or blue bottoms and a plain white t shirt. No jewellery – studs and watches to be taken off for PE.

English:

Spelling -

* Y5/6 curriculum is demanding. 4x spelling sessions a week focusing on patterns and rules.
* Spelling Shed (we will send out log in reminders later in the week). Please encourage your child to go on as much as poss.
* Some children will receive additional spelling support e.g. Nessy
* Please refer to website for list of Y5/6 words – not specifically tested in school but we pick out topic relevant ones to use in English/Topic where possible.

Handwriting -

* All children must join by the end of Y6 to be considered ‘at the standard’

Reading -

* Children will be heard reading individually as often as possible. Guided Reading sessions 4/5x a week – consist of a mixture of whole class and small group teaching with each session focussing on a different skill.
* Children are awarded gold, silver or bronze stars according to how many times they have read in a week (5-8 bronze, 9-12 silver, 13+ gold – raffle ticket for each gold to win book voucher at the end of every two terms).
* They need to have recorded this in their yellow reading records including a comment in the comment section (we will give children guidance on this this week and put it on the website for parents to refer to).
* Reading Bingo – new to 2019!

Maths

* Maths will be taught in own classes
* Children are challenged through ‘depth of learning’ tasks, requiring the children to explore deeper rather than accelerating them on to objectives from higher year groups
* Homework – no set day. It will be set when relevant and we will let parents know about when it is due in. Mathletics – children have log ins and can use whenever they like at home. Some homeworks will be based on Mathletics.

Rewards

Children can be rewarded:

* House Points
* JPs – exclusive to Year 5/6! (St John’s Pounds) Explain system.
* Head Teacher Certificates for outstanding work/effort

Helping at home:

* Please hear your child read regularly
* Practise Times Tables regularly. New government testing coming in next year – times tables. More and more chn coming up to Y5 not knowing all tables. Really important foundation and can easily fall behind if they don’t have rapid recall.
* See maths pack on website.
* Please encourage not ‘do’ homework with children, add comments to show any support. By all means help if needed but they need to take the lead.
* Topic homework will go out shortly after our topic launch and be due in on a Tuesday later in the term. We will also put the homework up on the website. Please encourage chn to treat this book as they would with any school book.
* Any problems with homework children can come and **see teachers Monday lunchtime for help**. Homework Zone will be the day after the homework is due in at break time.
* Parent comments for effort/support given.
* We **recommend ½ hour per piec**e, if your child takes longer than this it will probably mean it’s too difficult and therefore they need to come and see their teacher.

Independence:

* As the children move further up the school, we like to develop their indepence and aim to do this through a number of ways:
* Y6 School Council
* Jobs within the classroom and around the school
* Leading teams during house events
* Please encourage independence at home too, for example letting your children remember their PE kit and reading diaries etc rather than packing it for them – helpful skills to develop now with Secondary School in sight.
* Children are also allowed to walk to and from school alone providing the online permision slip has been completed. They may also bring phones in to school if needed for their journey. If they do this, they must not be used once in school (unless to call/text to say they have arrived) and must be handed to the class teacher at the start of the day to be locked in the safe.

Misc:

* Helpers – readers, walkers, school trips, class reps.
* News: Emails/ website / outside classroom notice boards
* Messages to office if absent or important info via email accounts
* Timings: School day starts at 8.45. Home at 3.15pm.
* Prepared fruit to celebrate birthdays as we are a healthy school. We are now giving the option to donate a book to the class too. If you would like to do this, labels to write your child’s name and the date of donation on will be available from the school office . The book will be kept in your child’s class for the year before going to the school library.
* Water bottles - please provide & label.

Key dates:

* Mon 9th – Secondary Talk for Y6 parents \*HIGHLY RECOMMENDED\*
* Mon 9th – Walkers needed for church visit
* Weds 11th – House Captain elections
* w/b 30th Sept – Artists’ Week (Sat 19th Oct trail)
* Fri 4th Oct – Steam trip
* Mon 7th/Weds 9th Oct – Y6 LifeSkills trip
* Tuesday 8th Oct – individual photos
* Tues 15th/ Thurs 17th Oct – Parent Pop In
* Tues 22nd/Thurs 24th – Parents’ Eve

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

Please feel free to talk to your child’s class teacher if you have any questions.