

Year 5&6 Welcome Meeting – Tuesday 5th September

Email addresses:

Brunel: brunel@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mrs Rachel Lake and Miss Potter (From Term 2)

Cabot: cabot@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mr Debley

Campbell: campbell@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Miss Miller

Guppy: guppy@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mrs Laura Swithinbank and Mr Samaras

Muller: muller@stjohnsprimary.org.uk Mr Ben Allcock (Year Group Leader)

School website: www.stjohnsprimary.org.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.

Arrival and Departure:

Muller, Guppy and Brunel - through main doors from playground

Cabot - up steps past the slide and in side door

Campbell - up steps past the slide and behind building into cloakroom

Children will be dismissed straight from their classrooms. If you allow your child to walk home on their own, please ensure you have completed the online permission form for this as well as mobile phones.

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/trip
- Topics covered this year:
Term 1 – WW2; Term 2 – WW2; Term 3; Rainforest - Term 4; Trade - Term 5 – Ancient Greeks; Term 6 – TBC (play-based)
- End of topic presentations – parents invited in to look at the work children have done over the term.
- PE will be every Thursday for all Y5/6 plus Monday (Campbell, Guppy and Brunel) or Wednesday (Muller and Cabot). Please make sure the children come into school wearing their PE kit (and that this strictly follows the uniform policy).

English:

Writing -

- Look for opportunities to get your child writing at home and insist on high quality writing particularly for topic homeworks. We follow a process of 'imitate, innovate, invent'.

Spelling -

- Streamed spelling session once a week with follow up work in class focusing on patterns and rules.

- Spelling Shed (we will send out log in reminders over the next couple of weeks). Please encourage your child to go on as much as possible. There will be an expectation that this is completed at least weekly for homework
- 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'
- We will now use pens only in Learning Journals in a bid to improve presentation in general.
- Children in need of support for handwriting will be given additional support in small sessions.

Reading -

- Children will be heard reading individually as often as possible. Whole Class Reading sessions 3 times a week - each will have a focus on a specific skill.
- 3pm - 3.15pm is dedicated time to whole class reading.
- Reading Diaries will be continuing this year.
- Reading Bingo/Suggested book list on website.

Maths:

- 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. Adventurous mathematician award.
- Homework – weekly (sent out on a Thursday morning, due in the next Tues). If this deadline is missed there will be a homework zone on a Friday breaktime after being given reminders. Homework will alternate between Mathletics or a 'make it stick' activity in homework books. May use Google Classroom if and when appropriate (log ins to be sent out over the next couple of weeks). Any tech issues then please let us know.
- Times tables 3 times a week, times table grid on a Monday.
- You can use times table rockstars at home to support. Log ins to come.

Rewards:

Children can be rewarded:

- House Points (for our 6 school values)
- House Captains
- JPs – exclusive to Year 5/6! System will be explained on the next slide.
- Headteacher and Deputy Head Certificates for outstanding work/effort

Independence:

- As the children move further up the school, we like to develop their independence and aim to do this through a number of ways:
 - Y6 School Council - explain process for year
 - Salaried (!) 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 homework deadlines/books 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 permission slip has been completed. They may also bring phones into school if needed for their journey. If they do this, they must not be used once in school (they can call/text to say they have arrived outside of the school gates) and phones must be switched off and handed to the class teacher at the start of the day to be locked in the safe. If children are caught with a phone on in the playground it will be taken to the office and parents will have to pick it up from school.

Helping at home:

- Please hear your child read regularly
- Practise Times Tables regularly. 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 on a Friday for homework not completed.
- Parent comments for effort/support given.
- We **recommend ½ hour per piece**; 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.

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.
- Breaktime snacks of fruit/veg ONLY please.
- 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.
- Behaviour policy – Fresh start policy and information about sanction process. Sent by Mr Hoye to all parents.

- Friday 8th Sept - walkers needed for church please!
- Wednesday 13th Sept- Y6 House Captain applications deadline
- Wednesday 20th Sept - Y6 Sch. Council applications deadline
- Friday 6th October - individual photos
- Tuesday 3rd October and Thursday 5th October - Parents' Eve
- Sat 14th Oct - school open for Arts' Trail

Please read bulletin every Friday for upcoming important dates.

THANK YOU FOR COMING! Please feel free to talk to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day if you have any further questions.