

## **Meet the Teacher Summary 2021-22**

Welcome to Years 5 and 6. After two years of lockdowns and bubbles etc, we're settling back into more normal routines again. Please find below some guidance regarding different aspects of 5/6 life this year.

### **Link Book**

All children in Year 5/6 have been given a link book. The purpose of this book is to help the pupils with their organisation, particularly with homework and important dates. It is also another useful way for parents and teachers to communicate. Reading will be recorded in this book, and spelling lists will be sent out this way too. Children are expected to have this book in school every day. Parents must sign at least once a week to acknowledge the reading at home.

### **Homework**

Pupils in Years 5 & 6 are set:

- Reading most evenings (and recorded in link books).
- Spelling, given out each week and practised in school. There will be NO FORMAL SPELLING TESTS in school, however it is expected that the children will practise each week's list and use their 'Top 5' words each week in their written work. They could also use the Spelling Shed website (details also in link books) as a way of practising.
- Reflection journals will be completed in school but occasionally may need to be followed up at home – this will be communicated through link books.

*In addition, the years 6s are set:*

- SPaG - Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar is generally set on a Thursday and due in the following Thursday.
- Maths homework will be given out on a Wednesday and due in the following Monday.

It is expected that each piece of homework should take about half an hour.

We are always willing to listen if your child is unable to hand in the homework on time.

In addition to set homework it is expected that children will keep up regular practice of times tables and read daily (or be read to by an adult- audio books count too!).

### **Curriculum and Topics**

#### **Autumn:**

We have begun the year with an Aztec / Mayan experience day and we will continue to learn about those two cultures from Central America: looking at evidence and seeing what that can tell us about their architecture, beliefs and traditions. Were the Aztecs and Maya savages? We will find out!  
Science – Materials – looking at the properties and uses of different materials, including plastics; how materials can go through reversible and irreversible changes

#### **Spring:**

Geography – Rainforests of the world. Looking at forests around the equator and thinking about deforestation and reforestation. Whose rainforest is it? Do we have a say in what happens to it, or do we need to think about our own forests in Britain?  
Science – light. Exploring the science of light using pinhole photography – making cameras, taking and developing photographs in our makeshift dark room (store cupboard).

### Summer:

Geography – country study – making comparisons with Britain.

Science – Looking at the human circulatory system; exploring electricity and electrical circuits.

### **PE**

Please ensure that your child wears their PE kit to school on their PE day (Monday for Cobalt class, Wednesday for Sky and Turquoise).

### **Kit:**

White t-shirt, black shorts (or jogging bottoms for outside if preferred), daps or trainers. For children wearing ear-rings, please make sure that they are able to remove them or have suitable tape to cover them.

### **Water Bottles**

Regular hydration aids concentration and pupils are encouraged to drink water throughout the day. In Year 5/6 it is the pupils' responsibility to fill their own water bottle.

### **Pick Up**

Please let us know if there are any changes to your arrangements for how your child will be getting home – walking, being picked up etc.

### **Contacting us**

If you feel you would like to contact us at any time about your child's progress or a concern, this can easily be arranged. Please send a message via the class email addresses ([turquoise@minchscool.net](mailto:turquoise@minchscool.net) / cobalt@... / sky@...) or phone the school office. Meetings may have to be held virtually.

Thank you for reading and we look forward to working with you to make this a successful year.