



Hatfield Heath Primary School

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Dear Parents,

We warmly welcome you to Year 6. The children have settled in brilliantly and we are excited to be teaching them, and working alongside you, to support them in what promises to be a memorable and fun final year at Hatfield Heath Primary School.

This term our English theme is 'The Magical World of Harry Potter'. We do encourage the children to immerse themselves in the books and films even if they have watched or read them before. This will greatly support them in developing creative ideas for their writing and art work.

This term we will be exploring texts and extracts from children's fantasy fiction books (including the Harry Potter series). Your help in encouraging the children to browse, choose and develop excitement for fantasy fiction books (either from the library, in book shops or online) would be incredibly beneficial. We will be encouraging the children to share recommendations with the rest of the class.

Your support with the children's reading is just as important in Year 6 as it has been in the past. It is wonderful to see that so much reading has already been taking place. In the Year 6 SATs test the children will be assessed on their ability to answer questions about the texts that they are reading. Developing their understanding of increasingly complex texts will be a strong focus this year. Just regularly spending 10-15 minutes sitting quietly with your child, hearing them read a few pages and questioning them about the characters, the plot and the language involved will greatly support their development. We expect the children to read 5 times a week- at least 3 times with an adult- and to record this in their reading diaries.

In Writing we will focus around the fantasy genre this term with a particular focus on J.K Rowling's world of Harry Potter. A great emphasis will be placed on learning techniques to develop and produce imaginative and lively writing that engages the reader. There will also be a focus on developing longer, more complex sentences, starting sentences with different types of words and learning how to use more complex punctuation. It is one of the national end of year requirements that children can fluently and consistently join up their

handwriting. Please encourage your children to do this when carrying out written home learning.

Our initial focus on Maths will be on number and place value. Depending on their starting points the children will learn how to read, write and order increasingly larger numbers up to ten million and decimals. Children will continue to develop strategies for adding subtracting, dividing and multiplying larger numbers and decimal numbers. This will include column methods, long division and long multiplication and the application of these methods to solve problems. The home learning that the children will receive will help to consolidate or deepen the learning that has taken place that week.

In Art the children will be producing Manga style portraits of Harry Potter characters with a real focus on developing detailed sketching and creating different tones. This is always a popular unit and we would love to see any sketches that the children create at home.

Sadly, younger children are at increasing risk from dangerous individuals on apps, games and social media sites. We will be working alongside you this year to support you and the children in understanding and avoiding dangers and becoming safe and responsible internet users. The children will receive regular 'personal, social, citizenship and health' education (PSCHE) lessons. Areas of learning this term will focus around rights and responsibilities including learning about the role of government and local councils. After half term we will be looking at financial capabilities and taking part in the 'Grow £1' initiative to support Grove Cottage Mencap Centre in Bishops Stortford.

PE will usually take place on Mondays and Wednesdays this term but the children need to be responsible for having their kit in school all times. The children will have the opportunity to work with our tag rugby coach, Mr Peasey, again this half term. They will also learn the rules and skills involved to play High 5 Netball. In the second half term the children will continue to develop and refine their posture, balance and movements on and off the apparatus in gymnastics.

Please note that the children cannot wear jewellery, including earrings and they must have trainers in school. Please ensure that all PE kit (and uniform) is named. They should also have a named water bottle in school.

In Science the children will be learning how to group and classify living things and to identify how they are adapted to suit their environment in different ways. It is an excellent opportunity for the children to do some wider reading on the amazing animals and plants that exist in our world.

In Music the children will have the exciting opportunity to learn how to play simple chords on the ukuleles and to sing and perform music as a class.

In Geography the children will be considering where energy comes from and they will explore the advantages and disadvantages that different energy sources can have, particularly on the environment.

In French the children will become more confident at holding conversations about themselves including being able to say their age and birthday. They will learn the numbers to 30 and even how to do simple maths in French!

In RE, as well as exploring the beliefs of Sikhs, the children will explore what others believe in and why people have beliefs.

I appreciate that this has come round incredibly quickly, but as the process for applying for secondary schools begins so does our gradual preparation for your children's journey onto Year 7. In Year 6 there will be firm expectations that home learning is handed in on time, and that the children apply the same effort and aim for the same quality as would be expected in their class work. At secondary school the amount of home learning will increase and late home learning can result in a sanction. With this in mind, we would ask that you support your children in developing a system for completing home learning tasks (not all the night before), for taking ownership in ensuring that their work is handed in on time and to be responsible for bringing home their reading diary. Home learning will usually be set on a Thursday to be handed in the following Tuesday.

We look forward to having a fantastic year with your children and if you do have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to arrange to meet with us.

Yours sincerely,



Mr R. Aiken

Mrs G. Jackman