

Moss Bury Primary School and Nursery

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Acting Headteacher: Michael Dean

22nd January 2019

Dear parents,

Year 6 – Sycamore Class

It feels a little absurd to be wishing you a Happy New Year this late into January but, since this is my first formal communication with you, here goes: Happy New Year! I hope you had a relaxing break and start 2019 in good health.

I cannot believe that it is January already – this academic year seems to be flying by so quickly! We are extremely grateful for all your support so far and hope that this can continue into what is now the home stretch in the run up to SATs. These are statutory tests, which are extremely important to your child and will be very hot on the agenda in the coming months.

As such, this is a term during which, traditionally, the wider curriculum takes a back seat while the children focus on their core subjects – reading, writing and mathematics. I will always attempt to use cross-curricular links in my English teaching, so intend to address portions of the history and science curricula through writing this term. Your child will consider how World War 2 impacted their local area, with a particular look at the significance of evacuation as well as studying the science behind keeping fit and healthy. We will continue to do PE each Thursday afternoon, in which we will be looking first at basketball and then onto gymnastics after half term.

In mathematics, we move on now from core arithmetical concepts into the broader and, frankly, more interesting areas of the curriculum. This term, your child will tackle concepts such as measuring and drawing angles; manipulating positive and negative numbers; calculating perimeter, area and volume of common and compound shapes; reading analogue and digital clocks and using timetables; ratio and proportion; investigating coordinates in four quadrants; and understanding averages. This is the term where I hope that you will see a real leap forward in your child's mathematical understanding.

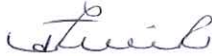
I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of encouraging your child to read for half an hour each night. I will continue to monitor reading records and hope that you are able to sign to acknowledge that some reading has taken place. If we imagine that your child's reading ability is like a muscle, it must be flexed as regularly as possible in the coming months.

We are in the process of booking a year 6 trip, which we hope will take place in the second half of this term so watch this space for a letter about this, which will be issued soon. I will also be writing to you soon to invite you to a SATs evening for parents, during which my colleagues and I will be talking you through the nitty gritty of SATs week and the tests that your child will be taking. In previous years, parents who have attended this have found it very valuable.

As always, I would like to remind you that I can be contacted either by making an appointment through the school office or by emailing me on joehenley@mossbury.herts.sch.uk. The more closely you and I can work together, the more benefit your child will receive.

Finally, can I remind parents that all children must have a pair of black plimsolls in school and a pair of black school shoes to wear outside. If children wish to bring in trainers in which to play football, this is fine, but they must have black school shoes in school at all times.

Yours sincerely,



P.P.

Joe Henley
Class Teacher / Deputy Headteacher