

# Information for Sycamore Class

## Welcome to Sycamore Class

I am really looking forward to this year and I hope that your child is looking forward to it too! This page includes information which you may find useful as your child starts Year 6. **I**

**will be holding a meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2.45pm. PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND as this will include vital information including about Braeside.**

## Meet the Team!

The Year 6 team this year is:

Mrs Rawnsdon (Class Teacher)

Mrs Longhurst (Teaching Assistant)

Year 6 is a FANTASTIC year for your child- it has many challenges (eg learning to master a curriculum, learning about how to show the best of themselves in a test situation, falling out with and making up with friends).

Challenges help us grow and the DISCUSSION WITH the child about what has gone wrong and how THEY can fix it is invaluable! If your child has NO problems/difficult moments this year, they will not have 'grown' as a person as much as they could have! This being said, it is important that we GUIDE and support these youngsters as they turn into teenagers! Let me know if there are ANY issues that I should know about BEFORE they become a big deal please.

**PE:** PE will be on Thursday and Friday.

PE uniform is expected: blue or black shorts, blue or black tracksuit bottoms, yellow t-shirt and school jumper, trainers and long hair tied back as usual.

In Autumn 2 we will be doing hockey. We also use proper hockey sticks, so the children **MUST have a fitted gum guard please.**

## Growing up... becoming more independent!

Much as it probably only seems like yesterday that your child started school, they are in a pivotal year. Here they can practise being independent and make organisation errors in a relatively controlled environment. We will be expecting them to take responsibility for informing you on things (don't worry, important things will appear in letters etc) but I would like them to take ownership of their own learning this year! Small requests I will make directly to the children (eg bringing in photos) and it is up to them to remember.

## Communication

On our class webpage, you will find information regarding upcoming events, photos and activities we have been doing in class.

Important information will be emailed out or via the school's app. Please make sure that you have it downloaded.

My email address is:

hrawnsdon@winterbourneearls.wilts.sch.uk

## Homework (I prefer to call it 'Home Learning' )

Whatever it is called this is always a headache! For some of you, too much will be set, for others too little. Some will like the children having formal 'worksheets' that can just be completed, others of you will prefer tasks that involve more creativity and imagination. Very few children will actually ENJOY homework, however being able to 'knuckle down and get on with things' is a skill that they need to master for life! I will endeavour to give a 'mix' to ensure that I annoy all of you fairly! More information about homework will be in their homework book handed out in September.

I strongly believe that there are many other VITAL things that children should get the chance to do: having time to spend with family, musical or sporting activities, being outside and exploring, cooking to name but a few! So enjoy your children... spend TIME with them... let them LEARN AT HOME!

## Braeside Residential-6th-10<sup>th</sup> October.

Year 6's go on a week-long residential trip. This is a fantastic trip and they learn a lot about themselves and their peers by this trip. Please speak to Mrs Hyde about any payment for this trip. I have also included a provisional 'kit list' so that you can start to prepare for this trip over the summer. **To reiterate, I will be holding a meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2.45pm. PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND as this will include vital information including about Braeside.**

## SATS (Statutory Assessment Tests)

Take place in May. More information about these will follow as the term and year gets underway.

I approach them with rigour, fun and clarity so that the children KNOW what to expect and what THEY need to know.

I will teach them how to revise, set targets, mind map and draw up a revision timetable.

They can be viewed as a very positive thing as children see their practice test scores reflect the work that they have done and use them to guide how to improve.

I will guide you through this process and inform you of how you can help your child. Please be aware that we will be booking in opportunities for you to work alongside your child and inviting you into school. I will give you good notice of these so that you can make sure that someone attends for your child.

## Applying for a Secondary School Place- The Deadline is usually 31<sup>st</sup> October (Wiltshire still need to confirm) but it creeps up on us.

Hopefully many of you have managed to visit some secondary schools already, in addition the secondary schools have a lot of information on their websites for parents to help them choose a school. YOU NEED TO APPLY FOR THIS! I will confirm the deadline with you when I know for sure, but it is worth knowing about now! For those of you taking the 11+, the results will be out before the deadline.

Keep an eye on the following website for up to date information about this..

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-applying>

**Pencil cases-** in preparation for secondary school, children need to bring in a pencil case with appropriate stationery. **EVERYTHING MUST BE LABELLED** so that there is no confusion of which items belong to them.

The pencil case needs to include:

- Pencil (mechanical pencils are good for precision in maths)
- A ruler
- A rubber
- A sharpener
- A blue **and** black handwriting type pen. Rollerball not biro please. Frixion rollerballs are brilliant as the children like to rub out any mistakes
- A glue stick (these tend to run out fairly quickly)
- A small pair of scissors- suitable for children at school please
- A few highlighters.
- A small collection of colouring pencils
- A small collection of colouring pens. (These last two could be in a different pencil case if wanted)

Many shops sell good, cheap stationery options eg. The Works, B&M Bargains and Tesco's.

Having a holiday is the best preparation for Year 6. It is a very busy year with a lot of learning to cover. However, making sure that your child **REALLY knows their times tables** makes a massive difference to their maths learning and **reading lots** also helps your child in their English work. So, I encourage them to read lots and keep going over their times tables over the summer holiday.