



SAINT JOHN'S

Wednesday 8th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 6 children,

Welcome to Year 6!

We have already had a fantastic start to the academic year! The children have arrived focused and enthusiastic to learn and we are looking forward to the children behaving as excellent role models for the rest of the school.

Apologies in advance for the length of our first termly class letter but we hope you will find lots of useful information and important dates.

*** Please keep this letter safe so you can refer to it throughout the term. ***

During the first two weeks of this term, we will be focusing on a whole school mini project around the theme of 'trees.' This mini project will be used as an opportunity to explore our school vision of Saint John's being a place where people flourish and grow. Hopefully, you will find children talking enthusiastically about the work they will have produced during the first couple of weeks.

Our topic for the term is 'Victorious Victorians'.

Teaching Arrangements.

The table below shows you which staff will be with Year 6 on a daily basis so there should always be someone to talk to should you need a member of staff.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Y6 Class teacher	Mrs Omar (All day)	Mrs Omar (All day)	Mrs Omar (All day)	Mrs Omar AM Mr Brown PM	Mr Brown (All day)
Y6 Intervention teacher		Mr Brown (AM)	Mr Brown (AM)	Mr Brown (AM)	
Y6 Teaching assistant	Mrs Russell (AM)	Mrs Russell (AM)	Mrs Russell (AM)	Mrs Russell (AM)	Mrs Russell (AM)



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Victorian Day

We will be having a Victorian School Day (date tbc). This will be an opportunity for children to come to school dressed up in Victorian clothing (rich or poor!) and will be taught in the Victorian style! Be warned – Victorian teachers can be VERY strict!

Recommended Reading

Our main class novel during the first half term is *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. (Quite a tear jerker!)

Any other research about Victorians will be very interesting and useful for the children. There are some excellent recommendations on the website

www.booksfortopics.com/victorians .

Homework

Find below the homework timetable for this term, with deadlines and the teacher responsible. Please note it will be vital for your child to keep their home/school diaries in school to make notes where deadlines are flexible or finishing class tasks is required. This term, the homework project is about any aspect of Victorians and we look forward to sharing these with other classes.

There are also some useful web links available on school website for extra English and Maths practice.

Day homework set	Subject	Teacher in charge and deadline
Ongoing activities	Reading	At least 3 times a week. Home/School diary checked by CT/TA every Monday.
	Times Tables practice	At least three times a week.
	Spelling practice (Spelling list attached – Ten words per week)	Spelling test every Tuesday
Monday:	Maths	Due in: Friday Mrs Omar/Mr Brown
Tuesday:	Literacy: Choose from weekly tasks. (Homework grid attached).	Due in: Tuesday Mrs Omar
Ongoing	Work on homework project	Due in: Tuesday 7 th December 2021 Mrs Omar



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Other Important Events

International Art Day – 16th September 2021
Internet Safety - Schoolbeat session - Mon 4th Oct. 2021
Visit to Holst Museum (Date and timings tbc)
STEMworks Workshop – (Date and timings tbc)
Trip to Sandford Park – (Date tbc)

PE

Swimming will begin on Monday 13th September 2021; letters with more details about swimming have already been sent home this week. Every Friday, children will need to come to school wearing their PE kits (coloured house t-shirts, blue/black shorts and pumps). New t-shirts can be purchased from the school office for £2. During colder months, children can wear tracksuit bottoms and tops (preferably navy/black) and trainers for outdoor PE.

Class Dojo

Whilst Class Dojo allows easier communication of messages and sharing of pupils' work, it is not checked during lesson time or out-of-hours. Therefore, it should not be relied upon for communicating urgent messages such as school absences and any last minute changes in pick up arrangements; these should be reported directly to school office.

Is Year 6 all about homework and SATS?

At Saint John's, we try really hard to reach a healthy balance between ensuring our children are 'secondary ready' and able to do their best in the SATs tests and making sure they have access to a broad and exciting curriculum. There will be plenty of educational visits and making use of our local area to enhance the children's learning. We recognise that children have strengths in many different subject areas and want to give them opportunities across the curriculum. The last thing we want is stressed children (and stressed teachers!).

And finally...

We are all looking forward to teaching Year 6 this academic year! It really is a very exciting year group both for the teachers and the children. There is a lot of hard work involved for us all but there is also a lot of fun too. The children enjoy the extra responsibilities and privileges that accompany being in Year 6 as they prepare for the independence that comes with secondary education next academic year.

We look forward to meeting all of you at the first Parent Consultations in October.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs N Omar and Mr A Brown