

Welcome to Year 6

We very much hope your child will have an enjoyable year with us.

Margo Rodrigo, Caroline Palmer and Alex Woods are the Year 6 class teachers.

Alison Scott, Nathalie Bickley, Nanna Frank, Hannah Childs, Bec Pass, Maria O'Neill and Christine Moss are all part of the Year 6 team

The Year 6 Curriculum

The cross-curricular themes in Year 6 are: Dangerous Earth (autumn term); Maya History (spring term) and the Ancient Egyptians (summer term).

Science Our science teaching emphasises the development of children's scientific skills: observation, classifying and sorting, pattern-seeking, fair-testing, planning investigations, predicting outcomes, carrying out tests, recording results and drawing conclusions. Our science topics are: Living Things and their Habitats; Evolution and Inheritance; Irreversible and Reversible Changes; and Light.

Maths We will be focusing on:

- mental maths skills (including multiplication and division facts to 12 x 12)
- developing reasoning skills
- teaching children to use more efficient strategies when solving problems

English During the year we will be studying the following texts: Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian; Beowulf by Kevin Crossley-Holland; A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens; Street Child by Berlie Doherty; The Iron Woman by Ted Hughes; Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare and The Wedding Ghost by Leon Garfield. Reading comprehension work will be taught through these texts as well as through non-fiction books.

Further details about the Year 6 curriculum are included on the Barnes Primary website [Year 6 curriculum map](#)

Home Learning

- Home learning is given out on a Thursday and collected on a Tuesday;

- Home learning should take about 60 – 90 minutes. If your child is finding the work difficult (and you are unable to support or if it is creating problems) please encourage them to ask for our support at school and drop us a quick email to let us know.
- We will be asking you to purchase a: grammar book; a mental maths book; a maths study book and a science study book. This request will be through your SIMS Pay account.
- Your child will be given a blue A4 book to complete the majority of these tasks in. A green A4 book is provided to complete maths tasks.
- The Home Learning activities will cover a range of subjects across the curriculum.
- Presentation and effort put into Home Learning are to be of the same standards as expected in the class.

Spelling

Children are tested on a **Friday** and require their spelling folder in school to be able to do this. Children are given new spellings on a **Friday**. We focus on the Year 6 spelling patterns (as prescribed in the National Curriculum) as well as the statutory lists of key words. These key words can be found in the UKS2 area of the website [here](#).

Reading Journals

Your child will be expected to maintain a reading journal. More details about their use can be found in the journals themselves. We ask children to have their reading journal and reading book with them **every day**. Children have been given set days to hand in their journal. For book recommendations, have a look at [this website](#) as well as recommended reading lists on the school website [here](#).

Labelling belongings

It is important that children take responsibility for organising their belongings. Please could all of your child's belongings – including shoes and PE kit – be labelled with their name and surname.

Water bottles and healthy snacks

Every child needs a labelled **water bottle**. There are school bottles available to purchase from the school office (£2) but these are not compulsory. Water bottles will go home every day for washing and refilling. Children can bring a **healthy snack** for break time. These should be fruit, dried fruit, vegetables, plain rice cakes, savory biscuits, yoghurt, cheese or a sandwich – no crisps, chocolate or sweet biscuits please. Please remember that we are a **nut free school**. Children's snacks and packed lunches should be nut product free.

Physical Education (PE)

For the autumn term, PE with Mr Pashley is on a Tuesday afternoon. Ms Rodrigo will be teaching gymnastics and dance to both 6R and 6PW on alternate Thursday afternoons. Please ensure all PE kit is clearly labelled. **For this half term, children can come to school dressed in their PE kits on a Tuesday and the Thursday on which they have PE. They do not need to bring their uniform on those days.** PE kit includes: a black branded t-shirt; plain black shorts; a long-sleeved top and black leggings to wear under the shorts and t-shirt on colder days; and the red, school sweatshirt.

Learning from home

Should we be in a position where children in the Year 6 bubble need to work from home, the first three days of learning will be available for you on the school website, on *Microsoft Teams (Teams)* and via SIMS/Parent mail. Following the first three days, all learning will be delivered through *Teams*, with an increase in the use of live video for Year 6 children. Children will receive their new *Teams* log in names and passwords w/c 7th September. These details will be glued into their reading journals.

Arrival and dismissal – change in procedure

Thank you to all those parents who have already emailed your child's class teacher to give permission for them to walk home alone from school. Following parental feedback, a form has now been produced for you to complete. The link can be found in the newsletter issued week commencing 7th September. **Please can all parents who wish their children to travel to or from school alone fill in this form even if you have previously given permission by email.** We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused but it is important that all information giving permissions are stored centrally.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this. We're all looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year with your children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do email us – mrodrigo@barnes.richmond.sch.uk, cpalmer@barnes.richmond.sch.uk or awoods@barnes.richmond.sch.uk but please be mindful of the school email guidelines as set out in the first school newsletter of the year.

Margo Rodrigo, Caroline Palmer and Alex Woods