



495 High Street North  
 Manor Park  
 E12 6<sup>TH</sup>

17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a relaxing break. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year. The Spring term is always quite short so please do take a few minutes to find out what your child will be studying between now and the February half term. There are also a few important dates for your diaries. If you have any questions please see your child's class teacher or myself.

Thank you,

**Ms. L. P. Baldwin**

(Phase Leader Years 5-6)

**Year 6 – SPRING TERM 1**

<p><b><u>Maths</u></b>          Children will continue to attend split classes for maths every morning. This term the focus will include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Negative numbers and solving problems involving numbers.</li> <li>2. Mental and written addition and subtraction of decimals and money.</li> <li>3. Mental and written multiplication and division.</li> <li>4. Calculations with fractions.</li> <li>5. Reflections and translations on coordinate axes.</li> <li>6. Perimeter, area and volume.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>English</u></b>  <b><u>Reading</u></b>          Children will continue to attend split classes for RWI every morning. These lessons will focus on developing your child's reading comprehension</p>	<p>skills. To help prepare your child for the SATs reading comprehension paper children will also have daily Guided Reading sessions (with their class teacher or in smaller groups where this is thought to be beneficial) and two additional afternoon sessions a week to ensure they can answer all the different types of comprehension questions.</p> <p><b><u>Writing</u></b>          Class based English lessons focusing on writing will take place on Tue-Fri. At first children will focus on writing Non-chronological reports. They will then focus on writing narratives inspired by Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet (following the trip to the theatre on the 31<sup>st</sup> January).</p>	<p><b><u>SPaG</u></b>          As well as grammar within English lessons there will be three sessions a week focusing on preparing your child for the SATs Punctuation, Grammar and Spelling test. Spellings will be set each week.</p> <p><b><u>Science</u></b>          This half term children will study "Living Things" and "Light" during two class based lessons a week. They will learn about the different groups that living things can be grouped into and different classification systems. They will then learn that light travels in a straight line and that we see objects because they reflect light into our eye. They will be able to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.</p>
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### How you can support your child at home

The reading comprehension test requires children to know a wide range of vocabulary. Ensure your child has access to a dictionary (this could be online) whenever they are reading. Get them to compile a book or list of new words, ensuring they write the meaning in their own words. They could also use each new word in a sentence.

Get your child to learn their spellings by saying the word, then spelling it out, then saying the word again.

One of the biggest challenges of the SATs reading comprehension paper is the amount of text the children have to read in the time given. Encourage your child to practise speed reading various texts (books, newspaper articles etc.) by setting them a short time limit. Then ask them to summarize, verbally, what they've read. They can then read the text again more slowly, in order to identify new vocabulary.

Pace is also very important during the maths SATs papers. Challenge your child to see how much of their homework they can complete within 20 minutes. After a few weeks they should get more and more questions done within this time. (Please ensure they do complete **all** their work.)

Plan a visit to the Science Museum during half term to inspire your child to revise all the science topics they've covered whilst at Salisbury.

### Other information

#### **Homework:**

Please ensure your child is reading every day, including the books set for them by their teachers on Bug Club. Use the reading journal to help communicate with your child's class teacher about what they are reading. English homework will be given out on Fridays for the children to return to school the following Thursday. Maths homework will be set once a week by your child's maths teacher with a clear deadline by which it must be returned.

#### **PE:**

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit (navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms, navy blue jumper, white t-shirt and black plimsolls) on Mondays.

#### **ECAM:**

Instruments lessons began on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January and they will be every Monday until Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Please encourage your child to practise their chosen instrument at home. Some children will be entered for musical examinations this term. Letters will be sent out to the relevant children.

#### **Dates for your diary:**

Week commencing Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January: Y6 test week  
 Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January: Y6 Every Child A Theatre Goer trip – letters to follow  
 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February: Last day of Spring 1  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February: First day of Spring 2

### Useful websites

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/edexcel/classification\\_inheritance/classificationrev1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/science/edexcel/classification_inheritance/classificationrev1.shtml)  
<http://resources.oswego.org/games/>  
<http://www.hoodamath.com/>

