

Welcome to Year 6

Autumn Term Newsletter

Year 6 Team:
Mr Theakston, Mrs Pickard and Mrs Cullen



OUR FIRST DAY IN OUR **NEW CLASS!**

Check us out in our brand new class!

We took this photo earlier today.



WHERE WE ARE **INSPIRATIONS** EVERY DAY!

Welcome back from the Summer break! It is so great to see you all back in school again, especially after what was a tough and strange summer term. I am sure that lots of you will be feeling a little nervous about the return to school, but don't worry. We are all here to help and support you and make sure that you have the best year you have ever had at Tudhoe Colliery. We have some awesome topics lined up for you in Year 6, as well as some of the best Tudhoe 30 experiences. Even better, right the way through school I have always heard about what a fantastic group of young people you are, so I am sure we will have a fantastic year together. As always, please just get in touch with me at school if you ever need anything, or if you have any questions or queries. The class email address is DTCTYear6@tudhoe.colliery.co.uk.

HOMework UPDATE!

Homework will be phased in over this first half-term. This means that Book Club work and home reading books will be set up and ready to start from Week 3 of the half term. You can still read your own book of course!

From looking at Spelling Shed and Times Table Rock Stars, our top homework priority for the time being is to carry on working on our spellings and times tables. Being secure in these things will make so much of the work in Year 6 easier. **I HAVE ALREADY SET UP CHALLENGES ON SPELLING SHED AND ROCK STARS** for you to use. As the top class in school, we must set the standard to everyone else by pushing ourselves to improve in these areas! **IF YOU STILL HAVE ANY BOOKS AT HOME FROM LAST YEAR, PLEASE RETURN THEM TO SCHOOL ASAP.**

8:35-8:50am Arrival and Reading for Pleasure Time to Talk if needed. TOILETS	8:50-9:50am READING LESSON	9:50-10:30am LESSON 2 THIS WILL BE MATHS OR WRITING, ON ALTERNATING DAYS.	TOILET BREAK MORNING BREAK	10:45-11:30am LESSON 2 CONTINUED THIS WILL BE MATHS OR WRITING, ON ALTERNATING DAYS.	11:30-12:00pm BASIC SKILLS LESSON. We will use this lesson to work on basics we are finding hard after being off school, such as handwriting, spelling, times tables and arithmetic.	12:00-12:50pm LUNCH We will eat lunch 12-12:30pm and then be outside.	12:50-1:00pm ASSEMBLY TIME TO TALK These will be in our classroom.	1:05-3:05pm LESSON 3 We will use this lesson slot to one of our afternoon lessons, like art, history, science and PE. TOILETS 2:30pm
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CRIME & PUNISHMENT

LONDON and VILE VILLIANS

Our topic this term in Year 6 is one that the children always love - Vile Villains. In this topic, we will learn about famous criminals throughout British history, so that we can see how the crimes they committed and the punishments they received have changed over time. The topic also gives us a chance to look at whether all crime is bad, what we mean by good and evil as well as modern crime such as terrorism and cyber-crime. We will also be learning more about London, the capital city of the UK. We will learn more about how the city has changed compared to when some of the criminals we study lived there, as well as more about the architecture of the city and what makes London one of the greatest international cities in the world.





MARVELLOUS ME!

You may have heard through myth and legend, or experienced first-hand, how much I **love** Marvellous Me! It is a fantastic app and really helps us to work together as a team - at home and school - to celebrate your child's achievements and push them to get even better. If you do not already use Marvellous Me, or there is a problem with your account, let us know and we will get it sorted for you. Then, prepare for A LOT of praise for your child!

PE KITS

Our PE Day this year is MONDAY. A reminder that on Mondays, the children will need to **COME TO SCHOOL WEARING THE CLOTHES THEY WILL USE FOR PE.** All of our PE lessons will be taking place outside, so the please ensure they wear weather appropriate clothing.



FOOTWEAR

The children need to come to school EVERY DAY in sensible, active footwear. This is because even on days we do not have our PE lesson, we will **really** be encouraging taught, active playtimes after so long stuck in doors for long spells during lockdown.

OUR FIRST CLASS NOVEL THE GRAVEYARD BOOK

Our class novel this half term is called The Graveyard Book, written by a famous children's author called Neil Gaiman. The novel tells the story of Bod, a boy we follow from a baby into his teenage years.

Throughout the novel, he is ruthlessly hunted by a mysterious man known only as The Man Jack. Escaping him as a baby, Bod stumbles into the local graveyard, where he is protected by the spirits. However, once older and desperate to fit in with 'real' people, Bod ventures out of the graveyard and risks walking right back into the grasp of The Man Jack! It is a fantastic story full of unexpected twists, a truly terrifying villain in The Man Jack as well as some wonderful language. We will also be reading others books by Neil Gaiman in our weekly **BOOK CLUB**, such as Wolves in the Walls and Coraline. He is an author well worth exploring with your child at home! Our first book club books this term are also fantastic, with Skellig and The Longest Night of Charlie Noon kicking off the year. We will also read A Christmas Carol!

CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP

Just like Year 5, the **CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP** will still run each week. However, now you are in Year 6, the expectation of the children is even higher! Each week, the children can earn **POINTS** for showing different learning and life skills, with the person who earns the most by Friday afternoon becoming **CLASS CHAMPION**. To keep things fresh and up the challenge, the skills needed are different to those from Year 5! I have attached a poster that explains in more detail what the skills are!

Excellent basic hygiene is going to play a massive role in school in future, so we have built in frequent hand-washing breaks to our class timetable. On top of this, the children also need to make sure that they sneeze or cough into their elbow, before then washing their hands. **PLEASE REINFORCE THIS MESSAGE AT HOME, SO**

THE 6 STEPS OF HAND WASHING



PALM TO PALM



THE BACK OF THE HANDS



IN BETWEEN THE FINGERS



THE BACK OF THE FINGERS



THE THUMBS



THE TIPS OF THE FINGERS

THAT WE CAN ALL BE HAPPY AND SAFE IN SCHOOL!

SATS WEEK

Monday 10th May 2021

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Test

Tuesday 11th May 2021

Reading Test

Wednesday 12th May 2021

Arithmetic Test

Reasoning (problem solving) Test A

Thursday 13th May 2021

Reasoning (problem solving) Test B

TIME TO TALK

We understand that for many children, coming back to school after so long will be causing a whole host of emotions, whether it is worry, sadness or excitement. We have set aside time in our class timetable for the children to talk to us about any worries or questions they have and **strongly encourage them to just talk to us.** As teachers, we want to help. It is in our DNA, so **please talk to your child about talking to us.**

From experience, the vast majority of worries that children keep to themselves could have been resolved in 30 seconds, if they only talked to us. **We are all here to help and support you.**