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Head teacher: Mr. C. Gibson

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school year at Belmont Primary and a warm welcome to Year Six. We hope this will be a year of great opportunities for all our children. We are all excited to be back at school and looking forward to supporting our children through the next weeks and months.

The Curriculum

Each day, the children will spend twenty to thirty minutes doing arithmetic to develop and extend existing and new strategies. This is in-line with the SAT papers. They will also be continuing to follow a reading program called Reading Plus, which will involve the children reading within the classroom for thirty minutes, three to four times a week. We would also like the children to use this programme at home, if possible.

We start the year with an exciting geography topic, 'Geography of the UK'. In Design and Technology, we are using computer-aided design to design a product with a specific purpose, which will then be made using sewing skills. In science, we begin by learning about Evolution and Inheritance. For more information on the subjects that we will be covering this year, please see the Year Six Curriculum Map, which is available to view on the school website.

PE

Mrs Browns' class: Thursday

Mr Harper's class: Friday

PE Kit:

- White t-shirt
- Jogging bottoms or shorts
- School jumper
- Trainers

We ask that the children come to school already wearing their PE kit on their designated day and bring a water bottle. Where possible, we will be having PE lessons outside, so please ensure that your child has warm clothing. As the children will be in the classroom when they are not participating in PE, we politely request that they wear their school jumper too. Earrings should be removed or covered for PE.

Homework

Y6 homework books have been ordered. Each child will receive three books: a maths, a punctuation and grammar and a comprehension question booklet. We will alternate which ones they complete pages from each week.

Your child will complete a homework diary every week. This will contain the information they need to know to complete their homework, such as which pages to complete in their books. We will give out homework on a Wednesday and we ask that the children return their completed homework on a Monday, along with their homework diaries. We would be grateful if you could sign your child's homework diary each week.

It is expected that children will have a confident, rapid recall of their tables facts up to 12 x 12 (out of sequence). If your child is not confident with their times table, please ensure that they are practising these regularly.

Spelling will continue to have a weekly focus. Your child should already have brought home an overview of this half term's spelling words. They will bring home a weekly list to practise, which will be handed out on a Monday. The children will be tested on these spellings on a Friday.

Please ensure you sign and date your child's reading record to confirm they have read at least four times during the week to enable them to enter the Reading Raffle. Listening to your child read aloud and asking questions about what they have read will increase their learning potential. If your child uses Reading Plus at home, this can also be recorded in their reading record and will count towards their four reads per week. If your child reads five or more times in a week, they will be offered an additional 15-minute break on a Friday afternoon as a reward.

Reading Plus

We have been using Reading Plus in school for the past few years and we are seeing significant progress through the consistent use of this programme. If your child can access Reading Plus at home, we would strongly recommend that they use this programme as well as reading a book. Every child has their own log-in for Reading Plus and it is tailored to their reading needs.

Our site code for Reading Plus is: *rpbelmo3*

Developing Independence

We are very aware that Year Six are the oldest children in our school and we need to prepare them for being increasingly independent in Year Seven. As such, we expect your child to be 'learning ready'. We encourage them to take responsibility for bringing the correct things to school on the right day, e.g. homework and reading records. In this way, we hope that they will embark on the secondary phase of their school life successfully.

We hope that this has given you a brief insight into what to expect over the coming months and, of course, more information will be given as other events are organised. If in the meantime you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Brown and Mr Harper