



YEAR 6 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

A Warm Welcome to Year 6!

Dear Parents / Carers,

A very warm welcome to all our children and parents/carers - we hope that your children will have a happy and successful year at Leominster Primary School. We hope you have had a lovely summer break.

The year 6 team consists of: Miss Cartwright (6C), Mrs Fletcher (6F) and Miss Pearson (6P). Mrs Linton will also be providing PPA cover across year 6. The year 6 teaching assistants include: Mrs Farmer, Mrs Davies and Mrs Hunt. Our aim is to give the children every chance to develop mentally and socially, becoming independent and enthusiastic learners.

School life is very demanding and children cannot cope with it if they are tired. Sufficient rest is fundamental; therefore, children should be going to bed at a reasonable time.

If at any time during the year your child has any worries or concerns, please encourage them to see their class teacher. We will be more than happy to listen and try to help. If you would like to discuss any issues relating to your child, please do not hesitate to contact any of the year 6 teachers.

Curriculum and topic this term:

English: This term the children will have the opportunity to go back in time to World War 2 and become immersed in the lives of similar-aged children from the period. This will involve writing varied **setting and character descriptions** and gas mask **instructions**. Afterwards, the children will also have the opportunity to explore **spooky stories!**

Maths: In mathematics this term we will be following the objectives outlined in the National Curriculum. Our main foci for this term will be **Place Value, the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and Fractions**.

Science: Our science topic for the first half term is **'Light'**. Within this topic, the children will recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Pupils will use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. They will also explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes and finally, they will use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

After October half term, our topic is **'Electricity'**. Within this topic, the children will associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. They will also compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Finally, they will use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

Topic: Linking with our English work, our topic for this term is **'WW2'**. In this topic, we will look at the main events between 1939 and 1945. We will also try to understand what life was like for an evacuee in Britain in WW2 and study the lives of Jewish children during the period. We will also link our art work to the WW2 sculptor, Henry Moore.

R.E: Our R.E question for this term is, ‘**Why do Hindus want to be good?**’

Computing: The focus in computing this term will be based around E-safety; teaching pupils to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour and identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.

French: In French, the focus will be on learning new vocabulary for new topic areas of **Actions** (including directions, items in the cupboard and lots of new verbs) and **Life in France** (including the geography of France, French food and other countries that speak French).

PSHE: To cover part of the new statutory Health Education guidance, during the first half term the children will focus on **Drugs and Alcohol Education**. They will learn the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking. The children will also consider how to make informed choices and how to respond to peer or other pressure. To supplement and reinforce their learning in this area, the children will take part in a series of workshops specifically designed for Year 6 children about living a healthy lifestyle. The programme will be delivered by staff from West Mercia Police and will cover the following areas: drug and alcohol awareness, making the right choices, positive and negative thoughts and feelings, being proud of yourself and your achievements, the dangers of smoking and substance abuse, personality traits, keeping safe and hopes and dreams for the future. These will take place after half term. After half term the children will also take part in their Sex and Relationships Education lessons. Further details regarding these sessions will be sent at a later date.

Reminders

Please help us to keep your children fit and healthy by ensuring that they come into school in their PE uniform on the correct day. Year 6 have games on **Monday**.



Children being excused from physical education for a medical reason should bring a note.



If your child is **asthmatic** please could you ensure that they have an inhaler that is in date, labelled with their name and in school **at all times!**

As many of you already know, we are a healthy eating school and we would like to remind you that children should only bring in fruit to eat at break times. It is also very important children have a water bottle in school – we strongly encourage children to drink plenty of water throughout the day. Water helps keep them hydrated but also improves their levels of concentration and learning.



UNIFORM

All pupils will be required to wear school uniform from September. Can we remind you that this is; Purple jumper (not PE hoodie), white or purple polo shirt both with or without logo, grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore. During the hot weather a purple/ white gingham checked dress is permitted. Please ensure all uniform is clearly named. All uniform can be purchased from Club Sport.

Homework

In year 6, we do a lot of focused work at school and do not necessarily give weekly homework in the autumn term. However, we do ask for your children to read as much as possible at home - recording reading comments in reading journals regularly (parent signature at least three times a week please). Children should read their accelerated reading book as much as possible but can also read other books that they enjoy if they wish to do so.

It is also vitally important that you support your children with any spellings or times tables they may need to learn. Each half term, we will also set a task around our current topic and this will be available for you to access on the school website. Please ask your children if they have any homework and give them every encouragement to do it – we greatly value your support in this area.

Special Events

World War Two Performance



On **Thursday 23rd September**, Aesop's Theatre Company will be coming into Leominster Primary School to put on a performance to the children. The performance is 'a gripping historic account graphically portraying the experiences of a London family from 1939-1945. It is a truly lavish production fully researched and packed with important data and detail, including extracts from major speeches and music of the era, but delivered with much humour, interaction and audience participation.'

The performance will be a great introduction to our topic and we feel the children deserve something to look forward to! On this day, we are also giving the children the option to 'dress up' – the theme is World War Two!

On **Friday 10th September**, year 6 children will also be watching 'Goodnight Mr Tom' to help them gain a better understanding of what it was like to be an evacuee in Britain. We will also be using the film to inspire our writing during English sessions and to help the children gain a 'feel' for the period. The film explores the story of a shy and quiet World War II evacuee who is housed by a disgruntled old man, 'Mr Tom'.

Special Events - Bircher Common

On **Tuesday 14th September**, we will be taking the children to Bircher Common. The children will leave school at 9.30am and travel to Bircher Common via coach. Each year, year 6 complete a walk around Bircher Common and it is a fun and enjoyable day out!

Children will need to wear old clothes (not jeans), sensible shoes for walking and a waterproof coat. They will also require a large picnic and a drink (ideally in a ruck sack).

If your child is entitled to free school meals then a packed lunch has been ordered for them. If you have pre-ordered and paid for a cooked dinner for this day then you will need to contact the kitchen and cancel your order. Their telephone number is: 610432

In order to cover the cost of transportation, we are asking for a contribution of **£3.00**. Please can all payments be made through Parent Mail by **Friday 10th September**. Unfortunately, if insufficient funds are received then we will have to cancel the trip.

The school has very high expectations of children's behaviour whilst they are representing Leominster Primary School on a trip. Therefore, we need to be confident that all children's behaviour is excellent and they conduct themselves in a sensible manner at all times. We reserve the right to not take any child whose behaviour could put themselves or others at risk.

Red Ridge

As you are aware, the year 4 trip to Red Ridge was postponed due to Covid. We have now rescheduled the residential for the week beginning **Monday 16th May**.

The cost of the residential is still **£165** and all payments for the trip must be made by **Friday 18th February**.

The year 6 team will be holding a parents' evening to discuss the trip in more detail after Christmas. If you require further information about this residential (for example, if you did not receive this information in year 4 or you would like to secure a place for your child), please speak to one of the year 6 teachers and we would be more than happy to help.

Dates for your Diary

Dates	Events
Friday 10 th September	Goodnight Mr Tom (DVD)
Tuesday 14 th September	Bircher Common
Thursday 23 rd September	World War Two performance
Wednesday 20 th October	Parents' Evening (3.45pm – 5.30pm)
Thursday 21 st October	Parents' Evening (5pm – 7pm)
Half Term	
1 st November, 2 nd November, 3 rd November, 8 th November, 9 th November, 10 th November, 15 th November, 16 th November and 17 th November	STAR (PSHE) workshops with PC Anna
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Years 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Craft morning

Yours sincerely

Year 6 Team: Miss Cartwright (Assistant Head), Mrs Fletcher, Miss Pearson and Mrs Linton