

Year 6 Overview 2020-21 – notes for parents/carers

Below are some of the key points for parents/carers of Year 6 pupils.

Staff

- **Cygnus Class:** Mrs Ward (Class Teacher); Mrs O'Brien (Teaching Assistant); Mrs Mollet (Thurs pm).
- **Aquila Class:** Mrs Cordery (Class Teacher Mon, Tues, Wed); Mrs O'Sullivan (Class Teacher Thurs, Fri); Mrs Arnold (Learning Support Assistant)
- Mrs Mollet (Teacher) will be supporting across both classes two mornings a week.

Reading

- Every child needs a reading book to use at home and at school. These can be two different books if you prefer them to keep one at home.
- Please ensure that your child reads for 20 minutes at home every day and writes this in their home/school book. It is important that children read aloud to an adult some of the time and discuss what they have been reading.
- Please sign the home/school book every weekend to indicate that the reading has been done every day.
- Home/school books will be checked by school staff during the week.
- Pupils are welcome to borrow class books to read at home and at school. Returned books will be placed in quarantine for a few days before going back into circulation for other pupils to borrow.

Spelling

- Spelling patterns will be taught and revised during the week and may sometimes be part of the English Homework.
- Children also need to be able to spell all of the words on the Y3/4 spelling list and we will work on the spellings on the Y5/6 list.
- Please continue to support your children in the learning of the spelling lists in the 'Home Learning Resources' folder on J2e.

Writing

- The children are expected to write in joined, legible handwriting with blue-inked handwriting pens. Throughout the year we will be building on their previous work and covering the Year 6 curriculum.
- Pupils will be taught how to write in different genres for a range of audiences and purposes.

St Dunstan's Handwriting

a b c d e
f g h i j k
l m n o p
q r s t u
v w x y z
A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

My Writing Checklist

1. CLFS "?!?,:;-() ' ...
2. Brackets, dashes or commas for parenthesis
3. Commas to avoid confusion: Let's eat, Grandma/Let's eat Grandma
4. Colon to introduce a list, semi-colon to separate items within a list
5. Adverbs, preposition phrases and expanded noun phrases
6. Cohesion within and between paragraphs: topic sentences, supporting detail, pronouns, adverbials and conjunctions to link ideas
7. Range of vocabulary and stylistic features
8. Range of sentences
9. Joined handwriting and correct spellings
10. Use passive and modal verbs appropriately

Times tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children should be able to recall multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12. Keep practising these with your child. • Times Table Rock Stars is available for your child to use. They should use their existing login details from last year. (New pupils to the year group will receive a new login.)
Maths lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths lessons are based on the White Rose Scheme which supports the National Curriculum. • Maths tasks are split into three sections – fluency, reasoning and problem solving. • Fluency tasks contain basic methods of calculation. • Reasoning tasks are given to enable the children to explain their calculations and methods that they have used. • Problem Solving tasks are given to enable the children to apply their learning. • Mastery tasks are also used to give the children the opportunity to develop an understanding of a concept in greater depth. • The maths topics covered are: Place value; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; fractions; position and direction; decimals; percentages; algebra; converting units of measure; perimeter, area and volume; ratio; properties of shapes; problem solving; statistics and investigations.
Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English and maths homework will be set on J2e every Thursday and must be given in by the following Tuesday. Children should spend around 30 minutes on each activity. • They need to save their work into their 'My Files' area where the class teacher will be able to access it and comment. • Topic homework suggestions will be given out each half term on J2e. Children are expected to complete and hand in three topic homework activities by the end of the half term (before the half-term break). If pupils would like to complete a topic-related activity that is not on the suggested list, they are very welcome to do so and this will count as one of their pieces of topic homework.
Resources to support learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils have access to the London Grid for Learning (LGfL) www.lgfl.net, which has links to many useful resources. Their log in will be in their home/school book. Resources we would recommend are: Maths at Home (videos to explain maths concepts) Grammar Explained Busy Things BBC Bitesize J2e • Pupils also have access to Mathletics and Times Table Rock Stars for which they have individual logins (see yellow home/school book). Links to these sites can be found on the pupils' J2e Launch Page, in the KS2 Home Learning Resources Folder.

Topics

- We will have a different topic focus each half term, around which most of the children's learning will be based:

Autumn 1	Tomorrow's World
Autumn 2	A Child's War
Spring 1	Frozen Kingdom
Spring 2	I.D.
Summer 1	Gallery Rebels
Summer 2	Hola Mexico!

Trips/events

In previous years, Year 6 trips and events have included visiting the Science Museum, swimming, a VE Day Tea Party and a 5-day residential trip to Wales. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, we are currently unable to give any details regarding when, or indeed if, these events will go ahead.

SATs

The formal national assessment of our Year 6 pupils (**SATs**) will take place in the Summer Term between **10th and 13th May**.

Residential trip to Wales

- Dates have been **provisionally** booked in the hope that this residential trip is able to go ahead. The 5-day residential trip for each class has been booked for the end of May/beginning of June.
- We will keep you informed of developments.

Behaviour

- We will continue to use the Behaviour and Learning Ladders along with the Christian Values Tree to promote and celebrate positive learning attitudes and behaviours.
- If your child's behaviour is causing us any concern, we will contact you.

General

- If your child's end-of-day arrangements change, please inform the class teacher in advance.
- If your child walks to or from school on their own, please complete a 'Walking to School' form available from the office or class teachers.
- If your child is walking on their own and you wish them to bring a mobile phone to school, please ask the class teacher for a 'Mobile Phone Agreement' form which will need completing by the child and parent.
- Please ensure that full PE kits are in school every day.
- Children need to remove any jewellery and watches/fitbits etc before PE lessons. If, for any reason, they are unable to remove earrings, they must bring their own tape to cover them with.

Communication

- You are able to contact your child's class teacher via the class email address:
Aquila Class: aquila@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk
Cygnus Class: cygnus@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk
If your message is **urgent**, please phone the school office.
- If your child brings a note in their home/school book, please remind them to bring it to their teacher's attention.

Many thanks in advance for your support.

By working together, we hope that your child will have a happy and successful journey through Year 6.