



St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School

Kirkley Cliff, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0DG
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Executive Headteacher Mrs Helen Armstrong

Head of School Mrs Ewa Parker

Chair of Liaison of Governors Mrs. Beryl Edwards



4th September 2024

Welcome to Year 6!

Miss Brown, Miss Grenville and I are looking forward to welcoming our amazing Year 6 class back into school this Autumn Term. From a personal point of view, I feel absolutely privileged and proud to be able to work with this wonderful class for another year! I am delighted to be able to see the children through Upper Key Stage 2 and help to prepare them for their journey into High School. Below is a brief overview of what we will be covering in the Autumn Term but please be aware that you will also be able to find this information on our annual curriculum map for Year 6 which will go onto our website soon.

Our topics for this term are:

Maths – Number: place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and fractions. We will be covering the Year 6 topics and consolidating and cementing our understanding of work taught in previous years.

English –we will focus initially on traditional tales and produce a persuasive letter in Autumn 1 before moving onto historical narrative, biographies and play scripts/performance in Autumn 2.

Please note that daily reading is a necessity. Your child may be a competent reader but this does not mean they do not need support at home to help advance and improve their reading capabilities. Please monitor your child's reading by hearing them read, or asking them questions about the pages they have read. This can include asking them to identify punctuation and grammar features, as well as helping them to decode or define unfamiliar words. Supporting their use of a dictionary will help develop this. If your child is reluctant to read, then read to them or take turns to read pages/chapters together. **Daily reading is vital to help develop vocabulary and understanding, as well as increase the speed and fluency of their reading.** This will impact their learning and progress in all other subjects.

Science – Autumn 1: Living things and their habitats- classifying groups of animals. Autumn 2: Evolution and inheritance.

History – We will be learning about the Tudors.

RE – We will be commencing a new scheme of work and the Autumn 1 term will focus on Creation and Covenant. Our Autumn 2 focus will be on Prophecy and Promise.

Art – Our artwork will be looking at collage this term and will explore the work of Gustav Klimt and Pablo Picasso before creating our own final pieces.

DT- We will be investigating, creating and evaluating textiles. We will link this to our Tudor topic by creating Tudor purses this Autumn.

Music – Year 6 will be learning to play keyboards with specialist tuition from our County Music Service. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn a new instrument and share our love of music. Further to this, children will be learning Tudor-inspired songs and developing their musical understanding with Mr Cross in class.



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PE – PE lessons will take place on Friday with Mr Cross and on Tuesday afternoons with Mr Cross and coaches. We aim to keep this outside for as long as possible (depending on weather). Please send children to school wearing appropriate PE kit.

PSHE – Autumn 1: Class rules and expectations and Black History Month. Autumn 2: Anti-bullying week, Gifts and Talents, Girls' bodies and Boys' bodies. *Information about the body talks will be sent to parents nearer the time in Autumn 2.*

Homework – Homework expectations this year are as follows: We would like children to practice and learn their weekly spellings and times tables which will be set on Fridays for a test on the following Friday. As previously mentioned, children must read daily at home for a minimum of ten to twenty minutes and we hope you all encourage this and engage with your child's reading. Please sign your child's reading log each time you hear them read (although the child can fill in the other details such as book, pages read etc). We will check these reading logs each week so if you have any questions regarding reading please do pop them in there. Each half-term we will also be setting a project to complete at home based upon a classroom topic focus and further details of this will be sent separately. This half-term the focus will be on Tudors and you can select a project from a selection of options so please choose the one which appeals to you most! As we have SATS this year, we will also be getting some additional resources to focus on maths and reading to be completed each week. There will be more information regarding this in due course. These will help your child to develop their speed, confidence and understanding and it would be amazing if you could support your child in completing these.

We are aiming to have lots of lessons outside where possible and make use of the beach which we are so lucky to have on our doorstep! We also have our School Residential in the Autumn Term and more details will follow shortly about this.

Finally, please can you remind children not to bring in their own personal belongings such as toys, pens and pencils, teddies etc (unless for Show and Tell or agreed with Mr Cross) as these can get lost, damaged and cause arguments. Please make sure anything the children do bring in (especially clothes) are properly labelled with the child's name. All children will need is their water bottle (**with water not squash or juice**) and a packed lunch if applicable.

We are all so excited to support this wonderful class through their last year at St Mary's and I am absolutely thrilled that I get to be there with them through their final year. We are going to have a fun-filled and productive term! As always, you know that you can come and see me if you have any questions, queries or problems. I know this year will be lots of work but I am going to make it my personal mission to ensure the children have the best year of their Primary School experience!

With very best wishes for the new term,
Mr Cross and the Year 6 Team.