

MORGANS PRIMARY SCHOOL



HERTFORD 2010

Welcome to year 6! The class teachers for your children this year are Mrs. M. Elder and Mr. A. Moore. The other adults working with your child are Mrs. Lundy and Miss Dixon

We hope that the following information will help to keep you informed about your child's education this year.

TOPICS

During the year the children will be studying the following topics:-

Autumn Term

Spring Term

Summer Term

Kenya, How we See & Forces in Action

Britain since the 1930s, Microorganisms, Reversible & Irreversible & More about Dissolving.

Revision for SATs, Food Chains, Changing Circuits & Healthy Living. Geographical Study - Coastal Regions.

END OF KEY STAGE 2 TESTS AND TASKS (English and Mathematics)

Week commencing Monday 9th May all year 6 children in the country will be involved in end of Key Stage 2 tests. As you can see from the above, there is a revision period for the first part of the summer term which is an important part of preparing for the tests. It is important that the children are in school during this period so we would be grateful if holidays are not arranged in late April and May. There will be an information evening for parents during the spring term.

PE KIT

All children must have the following, PE kit - shorts, blue Morgan's tee shirt and trainers in school at all times. It would also be useful if the children could have jogging bottoms and a warm top because we aim to have a PE games session outside each week when the weather permits. Gloves are also advisable when playing unihoc.

PERSONAL STATIONERY

We ask that children bring only **one** pencil case in to school. The pencil case needs to be small enough to fit into their personal drawer. It should contain drawing pencils, a pen (not biro), a ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener and a selection of coloured pencils. **Eraser pens are not permitted.**

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All school uniform must be **clearly labelled**.

We are no longer expecting children to wear plimsolls as indoor shoes. They will need to wear **black sensible school shoes** that are secure on your child's foot, and trainers to be kept in their named and draw stringed P.E. bag for outdoor games, and when they are using the trim trail.

Your child must have an art overall to protect their clothes (an old shirt will do). Also, please ensure that your child brings a coat to school.

HEALTH & SAFETY

All children must have a baseball cap/sun hat in the summer term.

Please remember that children should not wear any jewellery to school other than watches.

MOBILE PHONES

Only in exceptional circumstances will mobile phones be allowed in school. In such a circumstance please place the phone in a small clear named plastic bag and leave with a member of the office staff for safe keeping.

ILLNESS

Please let us know if your child is ill and will not be attending school. If you are unable to inform the school of an absence on the day, we must have a letter or telephone call explaining the situation promptly following it. If your child requires medicine at school, a form must be filled in before a member of staff is able to give any medicines.

PUNCTUALITY

The school is open at 8.45 a.m. and registration in Queens is at 8.50 a.m. To allow parents to drop children in Queens and walk over to Mandeville, registration in Mandeville begins at 9.00 a.m. Please try to get your children to school on time. It is very disruptive for the rest of the class and the class teacher if children drift in after the start time.

To encourage independence prior to secondary school we ask that parents and carers leave their children outside the buildings and do not come in unless there is an urgent need to speak to a member of staff. We would really appreciate your co-operation on this matter. Appointments can be made for after school on most days.

WATER AND HEALTHY SNACKS

It is the school policy that the children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day. This is separate to drinks at playtime and lunchtime. Please provide your child with a named bottle with a sports lid, which should be taken home every night and refilled with water for the next day. Frozen water is not allowed in the classroom and these bottles must be kept on the lunchbox rack outside. Please remember that children should only have fresh or dried fruit or vegetables as a healthy snack. Absolutely **No** fruit or cereal bars as they have a very high sugar content.

TISSUES

We greatly appreciated all the families who sent in a box or two of tissues last year. We get through a huge amount with general sniffles, sneezes and the odd tear. For this year, **please would you send in a box of tissues this month** and we will let you know when we need some more.

ISLE OF WIGHT

This trip will take place from the 23rd May to 27th May 2009.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year there will be other activities trips arranged for year 6 such as a visit from Mexicolore, a trip in role to The Imperial War Museum, Duxford and a cultural visit to the Hindu temple, Bhaktivedanta Manor. We aim to keep costs as low as possible while still trying to provide excellent learning experiences.

HOME LEARNING

Home learning is given in all classes in Morgans School although it will differ in content according to the age of your child. The areas to focus on to reinforce your child's learning will be communicated via Parent Mail every few weeks.

When your child goes to secondary school, he/she will be expected to do home learning activities regularly and will be expected to hand it in on time. To facilitate this transition we believe it is beneficial to start the process at the top end of the primary school. If your child develops the good organisational skills which regular home learning provides, he/she will be more able to cope with new challenges of secondary school. In year 6 your child will be expected to continue the practice of regular reading - approximately 15 minutes each night. Whilst most children at this stage do not need you to hear them read aloud, we would ask you to discuss the books and sign the records. To extend and support the classroom learning, subject home learning activities will be given once a week.

Each week a home learning note will be secured in your child's home learning book. This will set out the home learning tasks to be completed and will be sent home on a

Friday. It should be returned by the following Tuesday. Numeracy, Literacy, Science and Topic will feature at various stages over the term. We don't expect more than 1½ hours in total to be spent on this learning. The activities will also be placed on Parentmail should you wish to view them.

UNFINISHED WORK – This will be sent home for completion.

BEHAVIOUR

Our policy is designed to promote a consistent approach to maintaining good behaviour within the school so that all children learn to develop positive, pro-social behaviour. We aim to praise rather than punish and to develop an ethos where children seek to win praise rather than attract punishment. It is acknowledged that this can best be achieved by a positive approach to discipline. The vast majority of children will seek praise and rewards. In the classroom this is given in a variety of ways:

- words of praise and encouragement
- a reward sticker or mark of praise in a child's book
- display of a good piece of work
- public acknowledgement of good behaviour, work etc in assembly
- messages to parents
- sharing work with the Headteacher
- House Points

Each class agrees, publishes and displays a set of Golden Rules that they believe will help everyone in their class to work purposefully and to get along harmoniously in the class and the playground.

There is also approximately 30 minutes each Friday afternoon when the children may be allowed to choose an activity for themselves as an acknowledgement of a good week's work. If there is incomplete work or another compelling reason, a class or individuals may not get this free choice time.

Behaviour at Morgans is generally very good. On the rare occasion of more serious offences the school will follow the school behavioural policy.