

Year 6

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, EX8 3BA. Tel: 01395 263397

kestrel@wrpschool.org kingfisher@wrpschool.org osprey@wrpschool.org

Year Six Newsletter – Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome to you and, of course, the children to Year 6! For some of our pupils, the return to school after the holidays will bring great excitement at the prospect of new learning and seeing friends again, others may be feeling overwhelmed at the prospect of returning and anxious about changes to the day and new routines – some may experience all of the feelings within one day. All of these emotions are completely understandable and we will be working incredibly closely with the pupils and their families to make Year Six an enjoyable, positive experience.

A Quick Introduction to the Year 6 Teaching Team

Mrs Rose and Mrs Wheeler will teach Kingfisher Class, Mr Overton and Mrs Jones will teach Kestrel Class and Ms Huxtable will teach Osprey Class. Mrs Burrows, Mrs Lang, Mrs Satchell, Mrs Eggleston, Mrs Gorman, Mrs Hennessey, Mrs Elliott, Ms Holden, Mrs Chapman and Mrs Avery will also support the children in their learning.

Teaching and Learning

Throughout the school year we will encourage the children to develop their interpersonal skills and their attitude to learning. We aim to create opportunities for children to question ideas and concepts, become effective team workers, manage themselves and become motivated, resilient and independent learners. Don't be surprised if your child returns home full of questions to discuss over the dinner table after some lively class debate! For some lessons, children will be taught by their class teacher, for others they will be taught by a specialist in that subject and for English and Maths, they will be taught in sets, designed to support, challenge and extend pupils at a level which best suits them. We have found that this approach helps to ease the transition to secondary school life, where pupils are frequently taught by multiple teachers in one day.

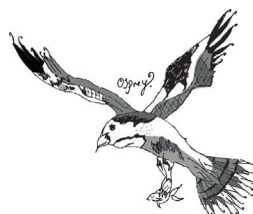
Routines / Expectations

For children in Year Six, the school day begins at 8:40am and ends at 3:10pm. If your child is not being collected by an adult (e.g. they are walking home with a friend or by themselves), please let us know. Children are expected to come to school wearing a smart school uniform following our uniform policy (please note that this stipulates jewellery, nail varnish, hair colour and cut and that long hair should be tied back).

On **Monday** and **Friday**, your child will need to come to school wearing their P.E. kit. Please could you ensure that your child wears the full and correct school P.E. kit (including a good pair of trainers).

Year Six Residential (15th – 17th September)

We are all very excited about the upcoming residential to Barton Hall (Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th September) where the children will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of adventurous activities, which may include Vertical Challenge, Climbing, Canoeing, PGL Games and Camp Fire. If you have any queries, worries or questions about our residential visit, please get in touch.



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Rivers and The Trojan Horse (The Ancient Greeks)

For the first half of the Autumn Term we will be learning all about 'Rivers'. This will build on children's prior knowledge and learning about rivers and we will also link some of our English work to this topic when we write persuasive letters.

Our main topic for the second half of the Autumn Term is 'The Trojan Horse', during which the children will learn about many aspects of life from Ancient Greek times. To start this exciting topic with a flourish, we will be holding an 'Ancient Greek Day' (Wednesday 12th November, more details to follow). This will feature many exciting activities, designed to immerse the children into the stories and life in Ancient Greek times, including sessions with Clive Pig, who is a brilliant storyteller.

Please see the attached Curriculum Web for further information regarding specific areas of learning in the Autumn Term.

Home Learning and Reading

It is proven to be highly beneficial to their development if children read for about 15-20 minutes daily. Reading should be recorded in your child's Reading Record. Please ensure that as well as this, you sign your child's Reading Record at the end of every week: this tells us that you are an active participant in your child's reading journey. Children who read for ten minutes at home at least five times a week and have their Reading Record signed will be rewarded.

Following the success of Seesaw last year, we will be setting home learning tasks on Seesaw. Your child will have various home learning tasks across a broad range of subject areas. Please support your child to complete these to the best of their ability, but remember that we do need to gather an accurate picture of what your child is capable of. If you experience any issues with any aspect of home learning, please let us know. Home Learning will be set on a Friday, for completion by the following Thursday.

Spellings will be set every Friday for a test the following week and we will be using Spelling Shed to support the learning of spellings at home. If for any reason your child can not complete their home learning, please inform the class teacher asap via your child's Reading Record, using Seesaw or by using the class email.

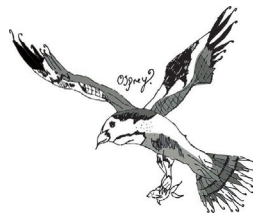
Contacting Staff

If you wish to contact us, we have class email accounts to enable quick, timely communication between home and school. Please use the relevant email address for your child's class (kingfisher@wrpschool.org, osprey@wrpschool.org, kestrel@wrpschool.org) if you should wish to contact your child's teacher. Emails will be monitored regularly and responded to as quickly as possible.

We hope that your child will have an extremely happy and successful year in Year 6. We look forward to working with all of our families to create a positive learning experience in your child's final year at primary school.

With kind regards

The Year 6 Teaching Team



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Key Dates:

Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th September – Year Six Residential at Barton Hall

Tuesday 23rd September – Individual Photos

Tuesday 21st, Thursday 23rd October – Parents' Evenings (days/timings to be confirmed)

Friday 24th October – Non-Pupil Day (INSET Day)

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half Term

Wednesday 12th November – Ancient Greek Day

Watching Films in Year 6:

We sometimes find suitable material to share with children in PG films, but require your permission to show a complete film. Please would you sign your name on the following slip to indicate if you are (or are not) happy for your child to watch PG films in Year 6 (these will always be checked for suitability by the teachers!). Please return this form promptly to the Year 6 teachers.

I give consent / do not give consent for my child to watch PG films in Year 6

Child's name: _____

Y6 Class (please highlight/circle): Ospreys Kestrels Kingfishers

Your name and relationship to child: _____