

## Year 6

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, EX8 3BA. Tel: 01395 263397  
[kestrel@wrpschool.org](mailto:kestrel@wrpschool.org) [kingfisher@wrpschool.org](mailto:kingfisher@wrpschool.org) [osprey@wrpschool.org](mailto:osprey@wrpschool.org)

### Year Six Newsletter – Autumn Term 2022

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

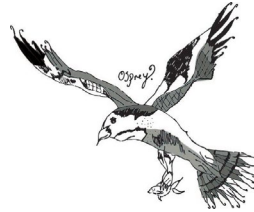
Mrs Rhodes and Mrs Wheeler will teach Kingfisher Class, Mr Overton and Mrs Wilson will teach Kestrel Class and Mrs Rose and Mrs Harris will teach Osprey Class. Mrs Burrows, Mrs Lang, Mrs Wibberley, Mrs Biggs, Mrs Satchell, Miss Jones and Miss Farrimond will also support the children in their learning.

#### 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 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 hair should be tied back if possible) and it should be noted that we are switching to 'winter uniform' on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September in preparation for school photographs (see key dates for more information). On **Monday** and **Tuesday** (Kingfisher and Osprey Classes) and on **Monday** and **Friday** (Kestrel Class), 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).



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Year Six Residential (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October)

We are all very excited about the upcoming residential to Beam House (Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October) where the children will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities including High Ropes, Climbing, Zip Wire and 'Survivor'. Further information and kit lists will be distributed closer to the visit, but you have any queries, worries or questions in the meantime, please feel free to email us or to get in touch with Mr. Smith, Deputy Headteacher.

An Introduction to Year 6 Meeting – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 5pm.

We would like to invite you to attend a short presentation regarding the Year 6 curriculum, the forthcoming residential trip and other arrangements for the year. This will include an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about any aspect of your child's final year with us at Withycombe. This will take place in the school hall at 5pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Please can we limit the numbers to a maximum of 2 adults per family – it is easier if children do not attend (the presentation is aimed at adults). Please complete and return the form at the end of this letter if you are able to attend so that we know how many people to prepare for.

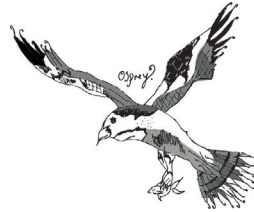
### The Ancient Greeks

This is our main topic for the Autumn Term, during which the children will learn about many aspects of life from this period of history (see attached Topic Web). Some of the areas of study include myths and legends; the Olympics; Gods and Goddesses; life in the City States; and much more! Throughout the topic, we will challenge children's thinking and enquiry skills and encourage their participation. We will be holding an 'Ancient Greek Day' (Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, more details to follow) as a celebration of the children's learning. This will feature many exciting activities, designed to immerse the children into the stories and life in Ancient Greek times.

### Home Learning and Reading

We would like to request that you please take every opportunity to help your child develop their reading skills; by listening to them read regularly at home. 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 have acknowledged any messages from school to home and that you are an active participant in your child's reading journey. Those children who read for fifteen minutes at home at least five times a week and have their Reading Record signed will be rewarded with additional Golden Time. Please also help your child to practise their spellings and their times tables (although they should know most of these by now!).

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.



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Spellings will be set every Friday for a test the following week and we are aiming to use Spelling Frame to support the learning of spellings at home. Further details regarding log in information will follow in due course. 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](mailto:kingfisher@wrpschool.org), [osprey@wrpschool.org](mailto:osprey@wrpschool.org), [kestrel@wrpschool.org](mailto: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

### Key Dates:

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Year Six Parents' Meeting, 5pm in the school hall.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Year Six Sea Swimming Sessions

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September – 'Winter' uniform starts

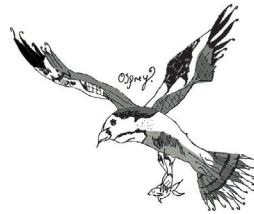
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September – Individual Photos (please send your child in school uniform with their PE kit in their bag on this day)

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Ancient Greek Day

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Year Six Residential at Beam House

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Parents' Evenings (timings and format to be confirmed)

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term



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### Year 6 Introductory Evening: Please return slips by Wednesday 7th September.

Please indicate if you would like to attend the Year 6 Introductory Meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September (for parents / carers). The presentation will take place in the school hall starting at 5 p.m.

Name of child : \_\_\_\_\_ Year 6 Class (please circle): Osprey   Kestrel   Kingfisher

Name of adults attending (max 2 per child): \_\_\_\_\_

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_