

Swimming

Year 6 children will swim at Fore Street Swimming pool this term. This year children will be swimming every Thursday.

Swimming will take up the whole afternoon on Thursdays, with the children leaving for the coach at half past one, in order to start swimming at 2pm. They swim for an hour before getting changed and getting the coach back to school, some weeks we may be a little late.

Swimming at Fore Street Pool, allows the children an opportunity to experience deeper water (there is a shallow end) and to swim longer distances.

Reminders

Please ensure all your child's clothes are named. Each term our lost property baskets are full to the brim with unnamed items of clothing, some of it brand new!

Please also remind the children that for safety reasons, the only jewellery that is allowed are small studs. These need to be removed during P.E. Because of this, it is only practical to have ears pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays.

Classroom help

As always, we would welcome anyone who would like to help in the class. Please see your child's class teacher.



Dates

Shotley / Ganges trip—Friday 6/2/09
Pizza Express Class 15—Monday 9/2/09
Pizza Express Class 16—Tuesday 10/2/09
Copleston Author talk—Tuesday 3/3/09
Bridge building day—Friday 27/3/09

Staff

Class 15 will be taught by Mrs Chapman on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Noon on Thursday and Friday.

Class 16 will be taught by Miss Fenning

Teachers' Planning, Preparation and Assessment time (PPA) will be covered by Mrs Evans and Mrs Thomson.

The Teaching assistants supporting Year Six will be:

Mrs M. Evans Mrs. T. Thomson
Ms K Doy

We all look forward to this term and with home and school working together, your children will be able to achieve their best. We work hard to do the best for your child. If, at any time, you have a concern or question, please talk to the class teacher who will be around at the end of each day. If you are still concerned please talk to the Phase Leader (Mrs Noon).

YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER



SPRING TERM 2009

Welcome ...

... to our Spring Term Year group newsletter! We hope you will find the information in this newsletter both helpful and informative. This term will be an extremely busy time for us all as we work towards the SATs tests early on in the Summer Term. This is also the term that we go swimming at the Fore Street Swimming Pool.

The Curriculum

We will continue teaching the core subjects; namely Maths, Literacy, Science and I.C.T. mainly in the mornings and in the afternoons we will be carrying out our reading activities as well as work on our topic. We are continuing work linked to our Rivers topic and building on our links with Shotley Primary School. We will be linking our World War II work to the Rivers topic and also studying the The War in detail.

Literacy

Writing:

The foci for our writing work this term will be narrative writing, looking at the key features of discussion texts and poetry. We also will be extending our narrative writing from last term and writing poetry. In addition to this, we are having booster writing sessions weekly, where we are concentrating on correct grammar and spellings.

Reading: The start of this term brings a change to the normal routines for guided reading. Children will come home with some reading to complete but the book group work will be completed within school. It is important to try and foster a love for reading and we will be challenging the children with some further reading challenges later in the term. Please continue to discuss all types of reading material with your children as it will help their understanding. In line with our literacy and topic, we are also encouraging children to read news articles on flooding and rivers, either from newspapers or through news Internet sites.

Spelling: Spelling strategies are taught within the Literacy hour and children also have a chance to practice these during Morning Literacy sessions which take place during register time. They are also encouraged to keep a personal record of spellings to be learnt, taken from mis-spelt words from their own writing. There are a variety of games on the Internet designed to improve spelling skills—please ask for details of these if you are interested.



Maths



As the children have progressed through the school, they have learnt all four school calculation methods.

These calculation skills along with a sound knowledge of the Key Facts in maths (such as how many ml in a litre and the multiplication tables) will give the children a confidence and firm foundation for tackling any problem. In addition, the children have a separate booster and mental maths lesson, in which they are practising mental maths and Key Facts. This term we will be focussing heavily on these—so please ask your child about their progress in both aspects.

Science: This term we will be looking at 'Reversible and irreversible changes and 'How we see things' before we move on to a programme of revisiting the topics covered in Key Stage 2.

We will be sending home a facts booklet to help children to remember the units taught during Key Stage 2.



Information To Parents

At the Spring Term parents evening (Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th February) you will be given the following information on your child's progress.

Reading:
Current reading targets & Teacher Assessments of the level they're working at.

Writing:
Current writing targets & Teacher Assessments of the level your child is working at.

Maths:
Details of areas of relative strength & weakness Teacher Assessments of the level your child is working at.

Science:
Details of areas for focus for your child & Teacher Assessments of the level your child is working at.

