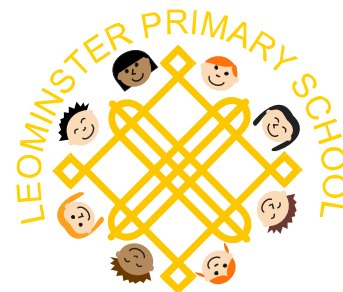




LEOMINSTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 6 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER



A Warm Welcome to Year 6!

Dear Parents / Carers,

A very warm welcome to all our children and parents/carers - we hope that your children will have a happy and successful year at Leominster Primary School. We hope you have had a lovely summer break.

The year 6 team consists of: Miss Cartwright and Mrs Linton (6CL), Mrs Fletcher (6F) and Miss Pearson (6P). Mrs Linton will also be providing PPA cover across year 6. The year 6 teaching assistants include: Mrs Farmer, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Cole, Mrs Powell, Mrs Hotchkiss, Mrs Davis, Mrs Williams and Mr Cole. Our aim is to give the children every chance to develop mentally and socially, becoming independent and enthusiastic learners.

School life is very demanding and children cannot cope with it if they are tired. Sufficient rest is fundamental; therefore, children should be going to bed at a reasonable time.

If at any time during the year your child has any worries or concerns, please encourage them to see their class teacher. We will be more than happy to listen and try to help. If you would like to discuss any issues relating to your child, please do not hesitate to contact any of the year 6 teachers.

Curriculum and topic this term:

English: This term the children will have the opportunity to go back in time to World War 2 and become immersed in the lives of similar-aged children from the period. This will involve writing varied **setting and character descriptions** and gas mask **instructions**. Afterwards, the children will also have the opportunity to explore **spooky stories**!

Maths: In mathematics this term we will be following the objectives outlined in the National Curriculum. Our main foci for this term will be **Place Value, the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and Fractions**.

Science: Our science topic for the first half term is **'Light'**. Within this topic, the children will recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Pupils will use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. They will also explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes and finally, they will use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

After October half term, our topic is **'Electricity'**. Within this topic, the children will associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. They will also compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Finally, they will use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

Topic: Linking with our English work, our topic for this term is **'World War 2 (WW2)'**. In this topic, we will look at the main events between 1939 and 1945. We will also try to understand what life was like for an evacuee in Britain in WW2 and study the lives of Jewish children during the period. We will also link our art work to the WW2 sculptor, Henry Moore.

R.E: Our R.E question for this term is **‘Why do Hindus want to be good?’**

Computing: The focus in computing this term will be CODING. We will be designing, writing and debugging programmes that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulation physical systems and solving problems by decomposing them into smaller parts.

Music: Our music this term will be focused on one song; ‘Happy’ by Pharrell Williams. We will be taking an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc.), singing and playing instruments are all linked.

French: In French, we will focus on phonetics and pronunciation. The children will learn how to recognise, respond to, pronounce and use basic classroom commands in French. They will also learn the days of the week and months of the year.

PSHE: During the first half term the children will be learning about **resilience** - the ability to feel good and function well in everyday life and the capacity to cope, even thrive, when things get tough. They will learn that emotions can be helpful and unhelpful, and how to regulate them. They will also consider the importance of being calm to help with resilient responses and discover the link between thoughts, feelings and behaviours. To cover part of the new statutory Health Education guidance, the children will focus on **Drugs and Alcohol Education** in the second half term. They will learn the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking. The children will also consider how to make informed choices and how to respond to peer or other pressure.

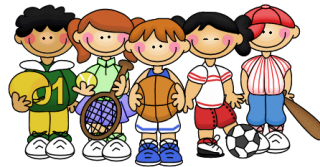
Reminders

Please help us to keep your children fit and healthy by ensuring that they come into school with their PE uniform on the correct day. Year 6 have games on:

6P – Friday

6F – Tuesday

6CL - Tuesday



Children being excused from physical education for a medical reason should bring a note.

If your child is **asthmatic** please could you ensure that they have an inhaler that is in date, labelled with their name and in school **at all times!**



As many of you already know, we are a healthy eating school and we would like to remind you that children should only bring in fruit to eat at break times. It is also very important children have a water bottle in school – we strongly encourage children to drink plenty of water throughout the day. Water helps keep them hydrated but also improves their levels of concentration and learning.



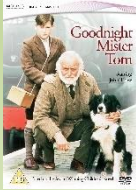
UNIFORM

All pupils are required to wear school uniform. Can we remind you that this is; Purple jumper (not PE hoodie), white or purple polo shirt both with or without logo, grey trousers or shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore. During the hot weather, a purple/ white gingham checked dress is permitted. Please ensure all uniform is clearly named. All uniform can be purchased from Club Sport.

Homework

In Year 6, we do a lot of focused work at school and do not necessarily give weekly homework in the autumn term. However, we do ask for your children to read as much as possible at home - recording reading comments in reading journals regularly (parent signature at least three times a week please). Children should read their accelerated reading book as much as possible but can also read other books that they enjoy if they wish to do so.

It is also vitally important that you support your children with any spellings or times tables they may need to learn. Each half term, we will also set a task around our current topic and this will be available for you to access on the school website. Please ask your children if they have any homework and give them every encouragement to do it – we greatly value your support in this area.



Special Events

World War Two Performance



On **Wednesday 4th October**, Aesop's Theatre Company will be coming into Leominster Primary School to put on a performance to the children. The performance is 'a gripping historic account graphically portraying the experiences of a London family from 1939-1945. It is a truly lavish production fully researched and packed with important data and detail, including extracts from major speeches and music of the era, but delivered with much humour, interaction and audience participation.'

The performance will be a great introduction to our topic and we feel the children deserve something to look forward to! On this day, we are also giving the children the option to 'dress up' – the theme is World War Two!

On **Friday 8th September**, year 6 children will also be watching '**Goodnight Mr Tom**' to help them gain a better understanding of what it was like to be an evacuee in Britain. We will also be using the film to inspire our writing during English sessions and to help the children gain a 'feel' for the period. The film explores the story of a shy and quiet World War II evacuee who is housed by a disgruntled old man, 'Mr Tom'.

Red Ridge

Red Ridge residential trip has been scheduled for the week beginning **Monday 19th February**.

The cost of the residential is **£190** and all payments for the trip must be made by **Thursday 21st December**.

The year 6 team will be holding a parents' evening to discuss the trip in more detail on Thursday 7th September at 5.30pm. The meeting will be held in the school hall.



STAR PROGRAMME

We have been given the opportunity to take part in a workshop specifically designed for Year 6 children about living a healthy lifestyle. The programme will be delivered by staff from West Mercia Police and will cover the following areas:

- Making the right choices
- Drug awareness
- Alcohol awareness
- The dangers of smoking and substance abuse
- Personality traits
- Keeping safe
- Hopes and dreams for the future

These workshops coincide with our PSHE topics throughout the year. Each class will complete the programme at different times during the autumn term.

Please don't hesitate to come and speak to one of the Year 6 teachers should you have any questions about the programme.

Dates for your Diary

SATS Dates

Year 6 SATs week will begin **Monday 13th May 2024** and end on **Thursday 16th May 2024**. The purpose of SATs is to measure children's attainment in maths, reading, and grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS). The data from these tests will provide vital information about your child's attainment, support the transition to secondary schools, and identify where additional support is best targeted to individuals.

Please do not book any holidays during this week. Thank you in advance for your support.

Dates	Events
Thursday 7th September	Red Ridge meeting @ 5.30pm in the school hall
Friday 8th September	Goodnight Mr Tom (DVD)
Tuesday 26th September	Dogs' Trust workshop for all year 6 pupils
Wednesday 4th October	World War Two performance and fancy dress
Monday 9th October Wednesday 11th October	PC Utley in school (STAR workshops)
Wednesday 18th October Thursday 19th October	PC Utley in school (STAR workshops)

Wednesday 25th October Thursday 26th October	PC Utley in school (STAR workshops)
Wednesday 25th October	Parents' Evening (3.45pm – 5.30pm)
Thursday 26th October	Parents' Evening (5pm – 7pm)
Half Term Monday 30th October – Friday 3rd November	
Thursday 9th November	Year 6 Parental Engagement afternoon @ 1.45pm Are you smarter than a 10/11-year-old?
W.b. Monday 27th November	Swimming each morning – details to follow
W.b. Monday 4th December	Swimming each morning – details to follow
Friday 15th December	Christmas Craft afternoon – parents invited.
Wednesday 13th December – Thursday 20th	Bikeability (Children who have signed up will be allocated a day) - details to follow.
Thursday 20th December	End of term

Forest School dates:

6P – Tuesday 24th October and Wednesday 8th November

6CL – Thursday 28th September and Thursday 19th October

6F – Friday 17th November and Friday 24th November



Yours sincerely,

Year 6 Team: Miss Cartwright (Assistant Head), Mrs Linton, Mrs Fletcher and Miss Pearson (Assistant Head).