



Class Booklet 2022 - 2023



Welcome to our booklet for this year. We are all very excited about the year ahead and hope that this booklet gives you some important information about what will be going on in year 6.

Who's in Swans this year?

CLASS TEACHER

Mr Jinkerson

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

Mrs Partridge (Monday-Thursday)

Miss Crouchman (AM)

Miss Allen (PM)

Mrs Holmes (Wednesday PM and Friday AM)

A Typical Day in Swans

The children can be dropped off at school between 8:30am and 8:40am so they can be in the classroom for 8:45am when the register is taken. At 8:45am, we complete our Early Bird Maths. We have an assembly every day in the morning; these are varied and are led by different members of staff. We discuss our school values, British Values, big ideas and celebrations; learn and sing songs; and celebrate each others' achievements.

In the mornings, we generally complete our core topic lessons of English, reading and Maths. We also have handwriting and spelling during this time. To break up the long morning, we often go out for our 'Daily Mile' around 9:45/10am ready for another lesson before break at 10:45am.

Lunch is between 12:15pm and 1:15pm.

During the afternoon, we have our foundation subjects including: history, geography, science, computing, PE, RE, PSHE, art, MfL (French and Spanish) and DT. We have a lot to cover across the year so do not do all of these subjects every half term. We believe that it is important to keep these subjects going even though it is a SATs year.

Collection happens between 3pm and 3:15pm depending on arrangements.

PE

We will have two PE sessions each week. In non-swimming terms, one session covers dance and gymnastics and the second covering games such as football, badminton, cricket and athletics. In swimming terms, one of these lessons is replaced by a swimming afternoon. Children should wear their PE kits to school on PE days, making sure that they are prepared to go outside even if it's cold or wet.

Earrings/watches/jewellery cannot be worn for any PE lessons. Staff in school are not allowed to remove earrings for pupils and tape is not an alternative.

If, for any reason, your child cannot take part in, or needs an adaptation made to PE, please message via dojo to inform us of this.

Our PE days are Monday and Tuesday.

Swimming

This year, we will be swimming at Ongar Leisure Centre pool in the Autumn 2 and Summer 2 term. These lessons will be on Thursdays so swimming kits will be needed then (children may wear PE kits to school).

Uniform and Equipment

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform every day, including PE days. Please see the school website for further information.

In year 6, children are permitted to bring a backpack to school instead of the usual red book bags. Children can also bring their own pencil cases to school (although they may not be able to use everything they bring in).

Children should bring a water bottle each day and coats must be brought during cold weather.

Please ensure all your child's belongs are named.

CURRICULUM ORGANISATION

We are keeping our curriculum structure of Explore, Discover and Create this year. This allows the children to really get stuck into areas of learning rather than quickly moving on each half term. Explore is geography focussed, Discover is History, and Create is the arts. Each term has two topics, but these are not strictly one half-term each.

The children study a wide variety of subjects in year 6, learning and completing work in a number of ways including practical work and computer based work.

YEAR 6 TOPICS

EXPLORE (Autumn)

Rainforests

The Silk Roads (trade between countries)

DISCOVER (Spring)

The Home-Front

Crime and Punishment

CREATE (Summer)

Legacy

Create: Drama

CORE VALUES

RESPECT
ENJOYMENT
CARE
CONFIDENCE
CHALLENGE

SCHOOL RULES

BE RESPECTFUL
BE SAFE
BE READY TO LEARN

LEADING THE WAY

As the oldest children in the school, we will be looking to year 6 to uphold our core values and school rules, setting an example to others in the school– expectations will be higher than previous years. There will be additional responsibilities for the children this year such as house captains etc and they will, of course, have their Goslings 'Special Friends'. Children who wish to be a house or sports captain will need to apply by writing a short letter explaining why they think they will be the best person for the role.

Year 6 children receive additional treats across the year such as sitting on benches during assembly and their end of year events.

READING

We will continue to use Accelerated Reader (AR) this year. With this scheme, all the children have a bespoke reading level; this supports them in their reading by ensuring that they are reading material suitable for developing their skills.

Each half term, the children will complete a Star Test which determines their reading level– this is a range. The children then choose reading books from that range and, once completed, complete a short multiple choice quiz on the book in school. The books are also worth a number of points, with more complicated books being worth more points (all levels have complex books worth more points). If the quiz is passed (60% or more) the children earn the same percentage of the points as they scored on the quiz. Each child has a reading points target to achieve each term with Bronze, Silver and Gold awards available for 33%, 66% and 100% completion respectively.

SPELLINGS

In years 5 and 6, we teach spellings through recapping previous year groups' spelling content which builds into our own. This helps to consolidate previous learning– don't be concerned if spelling homework seems too easy, this is why!

MOUNT MULTIPLY

Mount Multiply is our times table teaching approach. The children are all on a journey to climb up to climb up the mountain to reach the summit. To do so, they must complete times tables levels which get progressively harder. Along the way, there are check points: Base Camp, Valley of Silence, Death Zone, and Summit, where there are some other arithmetic challenges to complete. On completing each stage, the children are celebrated in assembly and receive a badge.

Rapid times table recall is a vital skill for the year 6 maths curriculum so please keep practising at home.

HOME LEARNING

Reading

Reading remains the most important homework that the children have this year. The children are expected to be reading for at least 30 minutes each day.

Spellings

Spelling Shed lists may be used to help learn spelling patterns this year, alternatively, homework may be presented in a different form. We don't set a list of words to be learnt specifically for a test.

We will continue the children's Write Words spellings this year (based on spelling errors in books). These lists are set on Spelling Shed.

Times Tables

Continue to practise at home.

Learning Logs

Learning log tasks will be set fortnightly to support our Explore/Discover/Create learning. These will be open-ended, broadly creative tasks which should take up no more than two pages of the learning log. The written part of the task is the priority, but the nature of the tasks often provides scope for the children to add in additional elements if they wish.

English/Maths

To support learning for SATs and in preparation for secondary school, the children will receive some additional homework tasks. These may be on paper, or on online platforms.

Making it Stick

Students will regularly be tested and quizzed in a low-key manner which will require them to recall previously taught knowledge. In order to help your children it will be helpful to talk about what they have learnt each day at home. I would like to stress that this will always be done in a low-key, low-stakes manner.

SATs

The dreaded three letters! Year 6 will be completing their SATs in May 2023 in accordance with the national timetable. The week will be as follows:

Monday 8th May:

- English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Paper 1: questions
- English Grammar Punctuation and Spelling Paper 2: spellings

Tuesday 9th May:

- English Reading

Wednesday 10th May:

- Maths Paper 1: arithmetic
- Maths Paper 2: problem solving and reasoning

Thursday 11th May:

- Maths Paper 3: problem solving and reasoning

On SATs days, the children we usually provide breakfast (toast, cereal, fruit etc) from 8:30am so the children can have a relaxed start to the day.

Whilst there is some importance to the SATs tests, and we will be working hard on them in school, there's no need to create stress and panic about them. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask.

FOREST SCHOOL

Forest school is a treat we like to give to the Year 6s. We will hopefully go once a term with our Special Friends in Reception, I will provide you with the dates closer to the time.

The children may come to school in suitable 'own clothes' on their Forest School day, bringing their waterproofs, wellies, and any extra layers needed in a bag (**all** clearly named please). The weather can sometimes be a little unkind and some changes/cancellations may be unavoidable (for example, if it is very windy, it is unsafe to go to the forest). We may, however, decide to work on the field instead, so please send in all Forest school clothing irrespective of the weather! We thank you for your understanding with this.

TOLLESBURY

We are very excited to be planning our residential trip to FACT in Tollesbury for another year. This is always a highlight for the children and I know a lot of them are already excited. The dates for Tollesbury this year are the 12th-16th June. The children get to participate in a large range of activities from sailing to high ropes to archery as well as staying on a decommissioned, brilliantly converted Light Vessel. More information will be provided throughout the year.



CLASS DOJO

We will be using CLASS DOJO as a way of keeping you informed of what we have been up to in the classroom. It's a fantastic app which you can download to a phone or tablet (or access the via the website) where we will post updates and photos of the work we have done that day. We aim to update the page daily/weekly but sometimes this is not always possible and sometimes we will update more than once. There is also a messaging feature on where we will send out a quick message to remind you of important information and dates. You are also able to message us on there and we have no problem with you doing so for low level importance matters or information you think we need to know. However, we would like to stress that we will not always pick messages up that day, and that the app has inbuilt 'quiet hours' where we don't receive notifications, so for important or urgent matters (e.g. absences) please contact us via the school office.



ARBOR

As you will be familiar with, we will continue to use ARBOR as another form of parental contact this year. Communications such as trips, school events and school payments will be made through ARBOR.

NEWSLETTER

Don't forget about our fabulous weekly newsletter which contains news, important updates, dates, events etc about all aspect of school life. The newsletter comes out each Friday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Macmillan Coffee Morning

30th September

Learning Consultations

12th/13th October

Break the Rules Day

21st October

OPEN DAY

3rd November

Friends' Fireworks

3rd November

Parent Drop-In Session

1st December

Non-pupil day

5th December

KS2 Christmas Carols

13th December

KS2 Christmas Lunch

19th December

Last day of term

20th December

