



# Welcome to Year 6 Leopards/ Zebras



**Dear Parents,**

Welcome back after your summer holidays. We hope you are looking forward to the exciting events ahead in 2023-24.

We have put together this pamphlet to provide you with information about life in Year 6 for this school year.

If you have any worries, however small, please do not hesitate to contact us. At the moment, this needs to be done using Class Dojo, a brief chat on the yard at home time or through making a longer appointment by contacting the office.

We hope that by working together we can make this year a happy and very profitable one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress in their final year of primary school.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss Cameron and Mrs Fenwick





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

**Start of the day** - All Year 6 children are expected to be in school at 8.10am (entering through the hall or gym door). We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives on time and that they are ready for learning. Children can have breakfast if they wish and will then start the day with some online activities and revision either using iPads or the computer suite. This is an important aspect of Year 6 and children becoming independent learners.

**End of the day** - Year 6 children currently finish school at 3.00pm. Please let the office know if your child is allowed to walk home alone. A letter will need to be completed so that we have the correct records. Remember that those with siblings in Year 2 or 3 will leave via the gym/hall and all Year 6 children will finish at 3.30pm on a Tuesday due to In Harmony.

**Attendance**- As a whole school we have an attendance target of 98% and we hope to constantly achieve or better this. Please ensure your child comes to school every day and remember to phone if they are absent. Holidays will not be authorised in term time unless it is exceptional circumstances. An appointment should be arranged with Mrs Robson before making any plans.

**Uniforms and Coats** - We would be grateful if all uniform could be clearly named! The only jewellery to be worn is a small pair of stud earrings and a simple watch.

**Reading** - Please remember that reading folders should be brought to school every day. We record which children have their folders in school on a daily basis. We would encourage you to write a comment in your child's reading record book every time you hear them read their books. Children should be reading daily at home and can also use Reading Plus.

**PE**- Zebras have PE on a Tuesday morning and Leopards have PE on a Thursday morning. Children can wear trainers and tracksuits if the weather is cold but should bring uniform to change back in to. Children will also have Commando Joe's (a physical teambuilding programme) each Friday so they will require trainers then too.

**Homework** - Homework will be given out between 3 times per week in Autumn term. This will be in a variety of forms but will often be a short task related to our learning in Maths or Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation (SPaG). This task should take no longer than 15 minutes and is not a test. All homework will be marked together in class on the due date so that children receive instant verbal feedback of how they have done and understand how to make progress.

**Class Dojo**- We will be continuing to communicate with parents using the Class Dojo App. Many parents are already signed up to this but it is vital that you are checking this regularly to ensure that no key messages are missed. Children can also have their own account.

**Deadline for secondary school application**- The deadline to complete the secondary school application form is 31<sup>st</sup> October. Please ask if you would like some assistance in completing this as we may be able to help.

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place>

**Key Stage 2 SATs will take place from  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

## This is what we're doing this term!

<b>English</b>	The children will study a wide range of texts over the year. We will cover narrative, plays, non-fiction and poetry in a variety of ways. Both reading and writing will be a focus to help the children learn and understand different styles and genres of each text type. We will be heard reading in guided reading groups. We are also focusing on our class reader, which is called "Walking with Witches" and is set in Newcastle.
<b>Maths</b>	We will be covering the nine key areas of mathematics. These are: number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, ratio and proportion, algebra, measures, geometry, position and direction and statistics. Throughout each area we will be relating the maths to 'real life' contexts and situations in order for the children to see how mathematical skills are needed in everyday situations. We will be solving problems and using our reasoning skills. We will continue to develop knowledge of times tables and division facts and work on speed of mental calculations.
<b>Science</b>	This term in science we are focusing on two areas. Our first topic is living things and we will learn about naming and sorting plants and animals. After half term we will learn about evolution and inheritance. The children will continue to plan, carry out and investigate their own experiments to promote independence and critical thinking.
<b>Computing</b>	We will continue to use computers and iPads in all areas of the curriculum. The children will continue to develop skills at word processing and using specific programmes for a given purpose. They will also learn about coding and use Scratch to make their own game. E-safety will continually be revisited.
<b>PSHE</b>	This term in PSHE we will thinking about how we can keep healthy as we grow. We will look at links between mental and physical health and how to make choices that support a healthy, balanced lifestyle. We will be taking part in Commando Joe's which will help use to develop resilience, empathy, positivity and teamwork. We will also have workshops from Newcastle United Foundation linked to their wellbeing programme.
<b>P.E.</b>	In P.E this term we will be working on athletics. We will also work on looking at fitness and keeping healthy. We will work with Adam, our new PE coach, and will also do gymnastics after half term and create some routines through combining different movements.
<b>R.E.</b>	In R.E. this term we will most be learning about Islam. We will learn about the Five Pillars of Islam and also the role of the Mosque. To make comparisons with other religions we will also be thinking about Sikhism and visit a Sikh Gurdwara.
<b>Languages</b>	We will continue to learn Spanish with Mrs Bennaceur. Our first unit will focus on describing our bedroom and then chores we might do around the house.
<b>Music</b>	We will continue our In Harmony lessons. On Wednesdays, we will have Ensemble where all of Year 6 play together in our orchestra. We will also have individual lessons to help improve our skills in reading music and understanding musical vocabulary.
<b>Art/ DT</b>	Our artwork this term will be linked with our work in science and we will be drawing living things including flowers and plants using the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. In DT we will look at textiles and will be learning different stitches and techniques to create a product using felt.
<b>History/ Geography</b>	We will start the year with a topic about crime and punishment and will look at how these have changed throughout history. We will also learn about Historic Newcastle and hope to visit Newcastle Castle Keep and the Lit and Phil. We will then focus on our local area now and this will include reading Ordnance Survey maps.

## The Sculptors

I dreamed I stood in a studio  
And watched two sculptors there.  
The clay they used was a young child's mind  
And they fashioned it with care  
One was a teacher;  
The tools she used were books, music and art.  
One a parent  
With a guiding hand, and a gentle, loving heart,  
Day after day the teacher toiled  
With a touch that was loving and sure;  
While the parent laboured by her side  
And polished and smoothed it over.  
And when at last the task was done,  
They were proud of what they had wrought  
For the things they had moulded into the child  
Could neither be sold or bought  
And each agreed they would have failed  
If they had worked alone  
For behind the parent stood the school,  
And behind the teacher,  
The home.

Home and School  
Let's work together!