



Forest Academy

Bury Road, Brandon

Suffolk, IP27 0FP

Tel: 01842 890258

E mail: forestadmin@foresteacademy.co.uk

Headteachers : Mrs A Grimes and Mrs L Rourke

Dear parent/carers,



Welcome back to a new year in Upper Key Stage 2. We are very excited to get started building lots of golden learning experiences and memories this year with your children. We hope that you have all had a restful summer –we are looking forward to sharing the year ahead with you all. This year, Year 6, are split into two small classes. Birch led by Mr Baxter and Elder led by Miss Morley. Whilst your children are in their own personal tutor groups, Mr Baxter and Miss Morley share the teaching responsibility for all the Year 6 children, so it is likely the children will be taught by both teachers. This is also an effective way to begin preparing children for their High School experiences. (More Info on that later!)

Topic:

This half term our topic is based on the Disney Pixar Film; Inside Out - a fantastic film which really effectively delves into the mind of the central character Riley exploring her emotions and feelings. As part of this learning, the children will be creating memory frames, in Design Technology (DT). For this we ask that you help the children provide some items for these frames (they will get them back at the end of the Year) inclusive of tickets, photographs, brochures from holidays, special days out etc. The children will be creating their own personal collage of memories to place within the frames they create. Also within the unit, the children will be learning about the Geography of America – where the film is set, and their Science learning will focus on 'inside' the body –the circulatory system. It promises to be lots of fun. For more information on exactly what the children will be covering, do look at the Curriculum overviews which are available on the website, or from the Office.



P.E:

Birch	Thursday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>)	Friday: Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)
Elder	Thursday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>)	Friday: Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)



Children will have PE on the days stated above. Friday's session will be field-based, and therefore children will need to have a warm tracksuit and appropriate outdoor PE shoes for these sessions as wherever possible we will try and get outdoors. It is important that children have their PE kit in school at all times just in case the unreliable British weather causes us to change days. In Year 6 we are also involved with a variety of competitions and sporting events, so do encourage your children to get involved. There are lots of sports clubs on offer this year so ensure they sign up.

Company Number: 07400940

Working in Partnership with

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Home Learning:

Children in Year 6 will be set weekly home learning. Children will have four home learning books – one for mental maths, times tables, grammar and punctuation, and one for reading comprehension. The school have provided these in the first instance but the expectation is that children take responsibility for these. If they become lost, parents will incur the cost of their replacement. Children will be set pages from these books on an alternate basis e.g. during one week children may be set some revision of mental maths skills and a grammar based activity, the following week will be a times tables activity and comprehension. Inside the front cover of each of these books will be the page number so that it is clear what activities need to be completed. We will also continue to have weekly spellings to learn which will link directly to what is being taught in class and please log on regularly to Mathletics. Eg:

Home learning:	Handed out:	Expected in:
Weekly spellings, linked to learning in class + Grammar/Punctuation Task	Friday	Following Wednesdays (Tested Fridays)
Comprehension or Writing Task	Friday	Following Wednesday
Mymaths online activity	Friday	Following Wednesday
Maths Homelearning activity + Timestables	Friday	Friday (Tested Fridays)

When the children hand in their homelearning completed and on time, they receive a stamp which goes towards an end of term treat. This term their treat will be Hot-chocolate with all the trimmings and a Christmas Biscuit they will decorate! If your child has difficulty completing their home learning but has had a go please note this on the bottom of the home learning or speak to the class teacher so they still have the opportunity to earn their stamp. We do not expect children to be spending longer than 2 hours a week on their home learning, but we would like to see all children having a go.

Reading:



Children should read daily and this must be recorded in their reading diaries. These will be checked daily and children reading every night will earn a raffle ticket for a half termly prize draw. The children should also log onto their Accelerated Reader accounts to take their quizzes and log the books they have read. This year we are also introducing our Reading



Challenge, which encourages children to read their specially selected list of Great Reads. All available to borrow from school.

High School.

Applications for High School need to be made by October 2018. It is sooner than you think, so do be vigilant about attending open days and events as advertised by the High Schools to help you and your children make the right choice for them. Look out for information on our Facebook about key dates; we try to inform you as best we can.

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After School Intervention – Sats Boosters:



with a small treat to eat too to fuel their extra hour of learning!

Our aim at Forest is to ensure your children achieve their best and are prepared for their journeys onto High School. Therefore all Year 6 children are asked to attend after school intervention on **Thursdays from 3.15 until 4.15**. These sessions are essential for preparing them for their upcoming SATs testing at the end of the year and provide the additional time needed to practise key skills. The children are taught in small focus groups by either the Headteachers or the Year 6 staff. Further information about your child's group and permission slips will follow next week. Do ensure they do not miss these sessions. We provide them

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Do look out for letters and information on our Facebook pages. We have lots of exciting things already planned. Do remember that If you have any further questions, please feel free to arrange a time with your class teacher to discuss any concerns – generally after school is easier!

With thanks again,

Miss Morley and Mr Baxter.

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