



## School Contact Details

New Pastures Primary School

Upper School

Doncaster Road

Mexborough

South Yorkshire

S64 OLT

Tel:- (01709) 583271

If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.

## PE

For the foreseeable future, we will have PE slots on Tuesday afternoons. Please make sure your child has their kit in for those days.

The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear. Children must not wear jewellery including ear rings.

## School times.

During this current time, Class 9 will begin their day at 8:45am. You are welcome to stand with your child in the square to the right nearest the school gate if you arrive a bit early. At 8:45, your child will make their way down to the next square towards the school where Mrs Faley will be waiting for them.

Home time pick up is at 3:00pm. The gates will be unlocked at 2:55. You are welcome to wait in the same square, on the right nearest the gates. The children will stand in the square nearest the school. Once we see you, your child will be free to join you. If your child walks home alone, they can leave at 3:00pm. If you need to speak to Mr Purdy, simply wait until the other children have left.

## Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Friday. Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading diary each day to school with them. The reading challenge will continue this year. Spellings will be given out on a Monday for your child to learn ready for a test on Friday.

## Snacks

No snacks can be bought in school. Instead as we are a healthy school, children can bring a piece of fruit to be eaten at break. No fruit or cereal bars—only a piece of fruit.

## **Topic**

Our topic for this half term will continue 'The Americas'. This will encompass a lot both in terms of History and Geography—from the Native Americans and the early European settlers through to modern America. We will study the ancient civilisations of the Mayans and Aztecs.

## **English Fiction**

Children will have the opportunity to write stories, information leaflets and persuasive arguments based on the book 'Wonder'. English work will be linked to our topic helping the children to deepen their understanding. As a school, we feel that if they can be encouraged to write creatively it will help them to understand the characters in the story and their motivation behind the words they speak and the actions they carry out. Children will continue to develop their use of thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

In reading children will be developing their comprehension skills involving looking at different types of questions and what skills are required to answer them as well as entering discussion based on our class novel.

## **Non-Fiction**

Pupils will be studying different elements of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) which they will embed into their independent writing. The children will be developing their skills of reading for information during both reading and topic lessons.

## **Learning Behaviours**

Year 6 is an extremely important year for all children who will be required to maintain high standards of work and effort throughout. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We have also introduced a traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

## **Maths**

This half term we will finish covering the 4 operations along with reasoning problems to go with them. Following on from this, children will use BODMAS to solve calculations in the correct order. We will then look at different types of numbers including prime numbers, square numbers and cubed numbers before moving onto factors, common factors, multiples and common multiples. Then we launch into our topic of fractions, decimals and percentages.

## **Scientific and technological understanding**

This half term, pupils will be studying the unit of work about electricity. They will have the opportunity for a lot of practical hands on work using the different electrical components to create various circuits including using motors, fans and switches. They will also learn about the safe use of electricity in the home. Finally we will be looking at 'green energy' and why this is important for the times we live in.

## **History and Geography**

Children will be studying the ancient civilizations of The Mayan and Aztec societies. They will be researching how they lived, the challenges they faced, what was important to their way of life and inventions they created. We will be comparing and contrasting their lives to the lives of other civilizations and our own.

## **Art and design**

Again linked to our topic, children will be using different mediums: sketching pencils, paints, water colours and clay to create artistic work with their own interpretation and creative slant. We will be recreating art of The Mayans and Aztecs as well as baking delicious snacks using chocolate. We will be embarking on a few DT projects in which the children will be able to use tools such as saws, pliers, clamps and glue guns.

## **PSHE**

As part of Jigsaw we will be looking at 'celebrating difference' in which we will be looking at how everybody is unique. Anti-bullying week occurs this half term in which children will be doing some work and understanding how we can work together. As part of our topic we will be looking at the issue of racism, how it happens and what can be done to prevent and tackle it in our society.

## **Religious Education**

Children will be studying aspects of Christianity, particularly looking at the Christmas story and how this event has shaped the lives of millions of people. As always children will be encouraged to express their views as well as show an understanding, empathy and respect for those whose beliefs vary from their own.

## **Family Learning Session**

At the moment these are on hold and we do appreciate your support and understanding in this matter. As the situation moves on, we will use government guidance, only inviting you to work in school with your child once it has been deemed safe to do so.

## **Contacting school**

If you need to talk to me, please see me at the end of a school day. If you are unable to do this, you can phone the school office after 3:15pm. If I am not available, I will endeavour to ring you back at the earliest opportunity.