



**Welcome to Year 6
2017-18**

Top of the school!

- Greater independence (at home and at school) comes with increased responsibility: be on time, organised, own hygiene, etc.
- Transition workshops (Phase)
- Equipment in class: pencil cases, class book, diaries and homework folders.
- Labelled uniform (incl. plimsolls and stationary).

The Curriculum

- Our curriculum is based around the National Curriculum.
- We aim to ensure your children's learning is consistent, relevant and that they make great progress, whilst enjoying their learning.
- Autumn curriculum page posted on the school's website.

Home-School communication

- School diary (in school every day please: home-school communication)
- School diaries signed by teacher on Fridays (children must let me know if there is a message from you so I can read and respond as soon as possible).
- Changes to collection arrangements/absences.
- For quick messages: talk to me in the mornings or after school in the playground.
- Meetings: Make an appointment at the office to see me.
- E-mail school (admin@ourladys.herts.sch.uk)

Reading

- The focus in Year 6 is about teaching children to understand a range of texts and to be able to evaluate the author's choice of organisation, use of language or purpose.
- We teach key reading skills at school through shared reading in literacy lessons, guided reading sessions and some independent reading.
- Ensure your child reads widely and frequently, outside as well as in school, for pleasure and information.
- Talk to them about the books they are reading - ask questions!
- Recommended reading list (provided in the summer).
- Y6 class library and school main library - well stocked.
- Children must record own reading in school homework diary- then signed by parent.
- Class book (thank you for providing your children with copies).

How can you help your child/children develop key reading skills?

By Year 6 your child may be a confident reader and be reading texts of greater length. However you can still help them to develop their reading skills. Most important of all; make reading with you as enjoyable as possible.

- Allow your child to read silently, and then discuss what they have read.
- When reading books with or to your child, ensure that they continue to pay attention to new vocabulary - both a word's meaning(s) and its correct pronunciation.
- Discuss the effectiveness of a word an author has used.
- Questions you could ask your child:
 - When do you think the story takes place? Where do you think the story takes place? Why do you think this? (look for evidence.)
 - Is there a problem in this story? If so, how does the problem get solved?
 - What type/ genre of fiction do you think this? (For example horror, science-fiction, drama)
 - What if you could change the ending of this book, what would it be?
 - Can you find a new word from the book you have read? What does it mean?
 - Why does the author use _____ word?
 - Is this story similar to another you have read?
 - Do you think this book would make a good movie? Why or why not?
 - How is the text organised to support the reader?
 - What type of non-fiction do you think this is? (For example report, Instructions, recount or explanation.)

How you can help your child's maths learning?

- There are clear national expectations about what every child should be achieving in mathematics.
- Talk to your child about their maths learning. Ask them what they have been learning and encourage them to explain.
- We all use maths in our everyday lives which means that there are plenty of opportunities to help your child with their maths learning by involving them in everyday activities, e.g. measuring and weighing ingredients or when measuring the length or height of an object (metric system), read numbers out loud, read and interpret timetables, estimating a total or change at the shops, etc. It is important to relate learning within mathematics to the real world.
- Encourage your children to talk about their ideas/to reason mathematically, using a wide range of vocabulary.
- Estimate first, look at the numbers (what can I do to make it easier for myself?)- OLS calculation policy on the school's website.
- Rapid mental recall- Practise times tables regularly as part of their home learning.

Writing

- Children will be given opportunities to write texts similar to those they have read and where possible be given writing tasks for real purposes e.g. writing to an author, provide information for children in another class, etc.
- During each writing task the children have opportunities to plan, write and evaluate (proof-reading).
- Grammar (SPAG.com), spellings, handwriting (joined up, legible), composition and effect (vocabulary, writing devices) and presentation.
- Importance of modelling reading and writing. When do you write? (Share with your children)

Homework

Home learning is linked to their learning in class and it has a positive impact upon learning when used in a focused way:

- Children become enthused when faced with investigative, open ended and practical home activities.
- Children can rehearse essential skills.
- Children can develop good learning behaviours.
- Parents support and see the type of learning their children are doing at school.
- Homework- school policy- expectations and due dates. Set weekly on Fridays (posted on school website and hard copy in children's h/w diaries).
- WWII project and model this term - history topic.

SATs

- Assessment evening: 22nd November (6pm)
- Test: week commencing 14th May
- At the end of Year 6, children sit tests in:
Reading
Maths
Spelling, punctuation and grammar

These tests are both set and marked externally. Your child's marks will be used in conjunction with teacher assessment to give a broader picture of their attainment.

Autumn term key dates:

- 18th September: Parent Workshops
- 29th September: Year 5 assembly
- 29th September: PTA disco
- 5th October: Year 1 assembly
- 13th October: Year 4 assembly
- 18th/19th October: Parent Consultations (3.30-6.30pm)
- 20th October: Awards Assembly (9am)
- 1st November: All Saints mass (9am) Parents welcome
- 3rd November: Year 3 Assembly
- 8th November: Remembrance mass (9am) Parents welcome
- 10th November: Year 2 assembly
- 17th November: Year R assembly
- 17th November: PTA own clothes day
- 22nd November: Assessment evening for Yr 2 and 6 parents (6pm)
- 24th November: Year 6 class assembly
- 4th December: Advent Service (2pm) Parents welcome
- 2nd December: PTA Christmas event
- 15th December: Awards assembly (9am)
- 15th December: Christmas dinner and Panto
- 18th December: Nativity (9.30am and 1.30pm)
- 19th December: End of term

Pastoral Care

Year R buddies

Well-being buddies (Y6)

(Termly) learning partners in class

All children in the school have a named adult, chosen by themselves.

All teachers and support staff work very closely together to support every child and to keep them safe.

The children are frequently reminded of Internet Safety Rules.

Partnership

- Let myself or the teaching assistant know as soon as possible if something has happened that means your child is upset or unhappy; or if there is something you feel we ought to know. This will enable us to support your child.

Thank you for coming today and
your continuous support.



- Are there any question?