

Years 5 & 6 Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Croeso nol/welcome back! Not only a change for the children this year, but for me too. I am really looking forward to working with your children in years 5 & 6, and am currently working 5 days a week in the classroom, with the support of Mrs Pritchard and Mrs Masters.

In line with Curriculum for Wales, we are moving towards topics that answer big questions, and this term we are looking at 'What is Sanctuary?'. We will be centred around the Humanities Area of Learning. Now that our pupil voice sessions have been completed, the topic web will be sent home. As last year, this topic web will be flexible, and added to and amended as the term progresses. If the children have any books/artefacts etc at home linked to any aspect of our new topic that they would like to bring in, they are welcome to bring these in on a Friday for topic related Show and Tell sessions.

Useful info:

- Please can all children bring a fruit snack and a refillable water bottle daily with their name clearly labelled.
- Please can ALL uniform be clearly named. This will help us in returning any lost property.
- The doors will be opened at 8:50am and closed just after 9am. All children need to be in class and ready to learn at 9am each morning.
- Please fill in a new contact sheet if any of your details/Twitter preferences have changed. Please also ensure that staff are aware of any medication/allergies.
- Our PE lessons will take place on **Wednesdays**. Children need to come to school dressed in their PE kit - plain joggers/shorts/leggings, a plain t shirt, school jumper, and trainers.
- **Homework** - Children will have a homework book which will contain a mixture of maths or topic-based homework tasks. This book will be sent home weekly on a Friday and is to be returned on a Monday in order to be marked in time for the following Friday.
- **Spellings** - Children will have weekly spelling tests - these words will be sent home to practise on a Friday each week ready for an informal test in school on the following Friday morning. They will be sent home in a blue spelling book (small book) - the words will be glued into the book each week and sent home to be practised. Please ensure that the spelling book is returned to school every Friday morning for children to have their new sets of words.
- **Times Table Tests** - As part of our maths lesson on a Friday, we complete our weekly tables challenges. Children work through successive times tables, with the aim being fluent recall. This routine will be explained to the children who are new to this in the first few weeks, and they will be given time to practice during the school week. We also encourage children to practice at home in preparation for their weekly challenge. All Year 5 and 6 pupils will continue from their level at the end of last year. We will start this process with the children new to our school.
Order of Times Table Tests -
x10, x 5, x2, yellow badge (mixture of 10, 5, 2 tables)
x3, x6, x9, blue badge (mixture of 3, 6, 9 tables)
x4, x8, red badge (mixture of 4, 8 tables)
x7, green badge (mixture of all tables)
Challenges - series of tests to practice fluency of times tables, addition, subtraction etc)
- **Google Classroom** - Children can access our Google Classroom via their hwb account. It is important that all pupils learn how to log onto Hwb using their username and password. If your child needs a copy of their Hwb login to use at home, please let me know. When appropriate, homework tasks will be added to our Google Classroom, plus the children will be able to access useful maths games and our Welsh pupil mat.
- **Reading books** will need to be brought into school on a daily basis, as we will be listening to your child read in school as often as possible; and all Y5/6 children will have a reading record this year. Please can you listen to your child read at least once a week and fill in the reading record. In addition, all children will have a guided reading session each week. The children can bring in a book from home to use as their tray reading book for silent reading at different times through the week, or choose one from our class library shelves.

- **Parent helpers** - If there are any parent helpers who would be willing to come in and listen to readers during the school week, please let me know. This only needs to be for half an hour, preferably between 9.00-9.30am daily or at a time that is convenient to you.
- **Pencil cases** - The children are able to bring one pencil case with equipment to use; however, school equipment will be available too. Black pens please.
- **Long hair** - In line with school policy, please can any children with long hair make sure it is tied back for school to ensure safety on the play equipment.
- **Jewellery** - In line with school policy, only one pair of studs/one stud to be worn to school and to be covered for PE please. One charity band may be worn. Watches are allowed to be worn to school (any photo/email functions must be disabled).
- If possible, can all children bring in a pair of named wellies/outdoor shoes to leave in school.
- No toys to be brought to school please.
- Daily activities will be shared via our Twitter Page @Our_Llangattock.

If you have any concerns or queries, please don't hesitate to contact me via email.

Many thanks for your support,

Bethan James,
Jill Pritchard and Jennie Masters.

Email:

bjames@llangattock.powys.sch.uk