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Dear Parents/carers

We hope that you have had a good summer break and that you and your children are refreshed for the new school year! We hope that the year 5s are ready to start their new phase, and that year 6s are ready for the rigors and expectations of a very busy year! We are writing to you to give you all the essential information regarding school kit, homework, meetings etc.

Topics

In term one, we will have two topics which will form the basis for much of our work in class. Our topic for the first 2/3 weeks is *Coraline* (A novel by Neil Gaiman), and our topic for the following 4/5 weeks is *How Things Work*, this is a science- led topic in which we will be learning all about light, electricity and forces.

School Uniform/Kit

Children are expected to wear school uniform, including plain black shoes every day and they need to bring a coat when appropriate. If your child turns up without a PE kit then they will still be expected to take part in PE and if your child does not have a PE kit for two lessons in a row then we will be sending a letter home.

Your child needs the following PE kit: trainers (it is advisable that children have boots for when the field is muddy), a t-shirt of their house colour, shorts, socks, long sleeved top and joggers for when it is cold and wet.

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Homework

It is expected that your child reads at home a minimum of 5 times per week and records their reading in their reading record; reading records can be filled in by the children but they must be signed by an adult at home. Your child can read whatever they like and they do not have to read to an adult, although reading with your child is definitely something that we would like to encourage as it is the best way of ensuring your child begins to understand how to read and comprehend. If you are struggling to find fiction for your child to read then please use the 100 reads for year 5 and year 6 that we have in the library.

Maths homework will consist of 10 calculation questions; it will be handed out on Thursday and is to be handed in on the following Thursday. Children will also get a short reading comprehension to do each week. While your child may find these comprehensions difficult at the start of the year, they will improve significantly over the course of the year and their reading comprehension will develop considerably.

We think it is important that the children get used to completing regular homework in preparation for secondary school; we would expect that homework should be done little and often. If a child does not complete their homework we will ask them to complete it on a Friday lunchtime.

Meetings:

Over the course of the year there will be some afternoon/evening meetings that we would encourage you to attend. We will be having a year5/6 expectations evening towards the end of September; meetings about the week at Manor Adventure in April; a meeting about the Year 6 SATs in January and a meeting about the Year 6 Achievement Award in May.

Your sincerely

Alex Knight, Jess Whittock & Jess Rumble

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