

Dear parents/carers,

A warm welcome to Eagles and what will be a wonderful year at Stanwick Primary. This year, your teachers will be Mrs Hadaway, who will teach on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Bird, who will teach on a Thursday and Friday. Year 6 is an exciting year, full of lots of amazing opportunities which we are looking forward to sharing with you. It is also a year in which we aim to foster independence in the children and a sense of responsibility as they make the transition to secondary school.

SATs

As you may already be aware, children in Year 6 sit SATs and our test week is week beginning 12th May 2025. They will sit a Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar paper, a Reading paper and three Maths papers. They will not have a writing test, but they will be routinely assessed in class across the year. Although we will be informing the children about these, they should not be their main focus and we aim to provide a year filled with rich opportunities and experiences, of which the SATs are just a small part. We will be holding an information meeting for parents and children, if you would like your child to attend, at 3:45 on Tuesday 5th November 2024 in the Year 6 classroom. This will give you an idea of what SATs look like and the expectations of the children. We would strongly advise parents not familiar with SATs to attend this.

Reading

The focus in Year 6 is mostly on the children's comprehension skills and we will have two isolated comprehension lessons a week in order for the children to practice this skill and then in their other lessons, we will be exploring background knowledge they will need to have in order to understand the themes in their reading books, vocabulary, and writing their own questions to show an understanding of the text. Once a child is a free reader, it is their responsibility to select their reading books, however we will be strongly encouraging the children to read a wide range of genres and authors. We have ensured that there are a variety of books available to the children. The children will be issued with reading records; please encourage your child to fill this in so that we can see what they have been reading at home and their thoughts on what they have read. Although they may not read to an adult one-to-one as frequently in Year 6, we will have many reading opportunities throughout the week in which your child will be heard read. It is the expectation that the children will bring their reading book and reading record in each day and take it home at the end of the day to read in the evening. To give you an idea of the expectations of the children in Year 6, we have attached an example reading test paper. Please do not show this to your child as it may be used in school to mark progress.

Homework and Spellings

Three times a year, we will be sending out a homework grid which details a variety of tasks for the children to complete related to the term's topic. Arithmetic books will also be distributed. These books and purple homework folders, which the maths sheet will be in every other week, should be handed in on a **Thursday**. Alongside spellings on Spelling Shed and homework tasks, the children are expected to read regularly and practise their times tables. Times Table Rock Stars is an online platform that your child has an account on which is great for times table practise. Managing their work and deadlines is an important skill for the children to learn in preparation for secondary school, but it should not be a cause of stress or worry. Please reassure your child that they can come and speak to us for any help that they may need; this too is a great skill in developing their own independence. We have ensured that in the homework folder is a sheet detailing maths and arithmetic deadlines across the term to avoid any confusion. Folders will be sent back home on a Friday.

Extra Equipment

We will make sure that all the writing equipment your child will need is provided in school, however they may wish to bring in their own pencil case containing pencil crayons and felt tips. This is to be kept in their bag and they will be given permission to use this equipment in specific lessons. We will be asking all the children to write using a school pen, so please don't worry about providing certain equipment. The children are responsible for anything they bring in from home and they must understand that it may get lost or damaged. Please ensure that your child brings in a named water bottle each day. We will send them home each day to be washed and refilled. We will need the

children to have a pair of wellies that can stay in school in order that we can get outside even if the weather conditions are not great!

PE

The children will have PE on a Tuesday and Thursday. They should come to school on these days dressed in their PE kits; please ensure that they have the correct kit on and that it is suitable for the weather conditions. Your child may wish to bring a spare t-shirt to change into if they were to get very hot and sweaty on PE days, as well as a roll-on deodorant. In the Spring term, you will receive information about a leavers' hoodie, which the children will be allowed to wear on PE days once they have them.

Permission

Throughout the year, we will be reading some fantastic books with the children which have also been made into films. Please see the list below and contact us should you have any concerns. If you do not contact us, we will presume that you consent to your child watching the following:

- War Horse – this is rated a 12A. We will not show the whole film to the children and the clips shown will be carefully chosen to ensure that they do not include any inappropriate language, scenes of extreme violence or any distressing scenes.
- Wonder – this is rated a PG film.
- Holes – this is rated a PG film.
- Goodnight Mr Tom - this is rated a PG film, but it does have some serious content within it.
- Horrible Histories clips

Additional Experiences

We hope to provide the children this year with a range of additional experiences. We will be attending the pantomime in December and the Y6s will be attending with their buddies, which is always fantastic fun! We will utilise outdoor learning and practical activities to engage the children within their lessons and we will also have visitors into school to extend our knowledge. Will we be in touch about other experiences throughout the year.

We will be visiting Wellingborough Museum at the start of the Summer term as part of our 'Britain At War' topic, so please look out for the consent regarding this on Arbor.

We also have another really exciting opportunity for the Summer term. We apologise for mentioning it so soon, but we would like to get this booked up as soon as possible based on interest shown from parents. In the Summer, we will be reading 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo and there is the fantastic opportunity for us to go and watch the live performance of this book at Milton Keynes theatre on Wednesday 30th April 2025. This would come with a cost however and would be calculated once we know how many children have consent to attend. Please complete an expression of interest in this trip on Arbor by Monday 9th September 2024. Once this date has passed, parents who have expressed interest will be contacted with more details once the trip has been priced up. Information on the performance can be found here: [War Horse | April 2025 | Milton Keynes Theatre, Milton Keynes | ATG Tickets](#)

Walking Home

If you would like to give consent for your child to walk home on their own and you have not done so already, please contact the office and sign the appropriate form. Please ensure that your child is aware of what arrangements are in place after school each day.

Mobile Phones

If you permit your child to bring a mobile phone into school because they walk home on their own, this must be switched off and handed in upon your child's arrival at school and this will not be returned until the end of the day. We would like to remind you that **mobile phones should not be used by the children on school premises**, and they are purely for their use outside of school if needed on their walk home.

We hope that this letter has been informative and helpful. Should you have any concerns or queries, please feel free to speak to us. We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Kind regards,

Mrs L. Hadaway

Mrs S. Bird

Class Teachers