

**BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

BILTON LANE
HARROGATE
HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk

Website:

www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S James



Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome back to all children and parents! It is lovely to see all the children back in school after the summer break. We are so pleased with the way the Year 5/6 children have settled back into school. We are looking forward to another fun-filled, exciting year of learning.

The children are at the heart of everything we do. Your child's welfare and learning are extremely important to us. If there is anything that you think might be affecting this as the year progresses, then please speak to your child's class teacher. Our partnership with parents/carers is vitally important. Given the challenging curriculum- particularly in reading, writing and maths- the positive involvement of parents/carers in their child's education is crucial in order to give them the best possible start in life. The transition from Year 4 to Year 5 can be challenging for some children. Year 5 and 6 requires children to take greater responsibility for their own learning. They must be organised, resilient and independent.

If you have any specific questions you would like to ask your child's class teacher, please ring or email the school office and their class teacher will reply to you as soon as they can.

Staffing this Year

Beech Class-Mrs Burns. Mrs Sawyer will cover non-contact time on a Tuesday.

Maple Class-Miss Hobson. Mr Guyan will cover non-contact time on a Wednesday morning.

Oak Class-Mrs Young will teach Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mr Guyan will teach on a Thursday and Friday.

Mrs Choma, Mrs Allott, Mrs Phelps, Miss Womack, Mrs Marks and Miss Parmar will also be supporting the children in Year 5/6 this year.

As the new school year is underway we thought it would be a good opportunity to bring a few things to your attention.



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Meet the Teacher

We are running a 'Meet the teacher' session, straight after school on Thursday 12nd September in Oak Class. This is not a parent's evening (which we will have next month) but, rather, just an opportunity to see your child's classroom, put a face-to-a-name of their teachers if you have not yet met them, and to ask any questions that you have.

Homework

Each week, children will be expected to: read to an adult at home at least four times; complete at least 10 sessions on Times Table Rockstars; learn their spellings; and complete **either** a Maths task **or** an English task (it will be Maths one week, English the next). Children will have received homework for the first time today. Spellings will be stuck into their spelling books; the Maths or English task will be stuck into their homework books **both books will need to be brought into school every Friday**.

Your child's class teacher will check each week that your child is completing these important activities. The national expectation is that children will know all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. It is therefore vital that if your child does not know their tables, they learn them as quickly as possible. Those who are not yet secure will have the opportunity to attend 'Tables and Toast': a weekly 20-minute session on a Thursday morning for additional support.

For children who are finding homework difficult, we have a Homework Club every Wednesday lunchtime in Oak Class. Children can attend the club as often as they wish and do not need to attend the club every week.

If there are any questions about homework, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Reading

We ask that you continue to hear your child read at home to support their enjoyment of reading. Even if they are a fluent and expressive reader, hearing your child read even for 5 minutes is still important. Asking your child questions as they are reading will continue to enhance their understanding of the text and develop ideas for their writing. Our top five questions are:



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1. What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
2. The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this tell you about a character or setting?
3. What's the main point in this paragraph?
4. Can you explain why...?
5. Why did the author choose these words? Will that influence how the story develops?

Each class has a reading reward scheme which your child has already been made aware of. Please ensure that you support your child in noting down the books they are reading and the pages they have read in their reading log. Children can also complete these themselves. We are focusing on reading for pleasure – to encourage the children to be life-long readers. On occasion, we would like you to read to your child. This gives the children the opportunity to hear fluency and expression from an adult.

PE

Your child should **come into school in their PE kit on the days they have PE**. In Year 5/6 this term, this is a **Friday each week**. Wherever possible PE lessons will take place outside unless the weather conditions make it dangerous to do so; please ensure on PE days your child brings a waterproof coat and a change of socks with them to school. PE is a statutory requirement for all children so it is important that all children take part every week. If there are any medical issues which mean your child cannot take part in PE or problems with your child's PE kit, then please contact the school.

PE kits should consist of:

- A plain red or white t-shirt, or a t-shirt with a Bilton Grange emblem on.
- A plain black or plain navy pair of shorts / leggings / tracksuit bottoms
- A pair of black trainers / pumps
- A plain red, black or navy sweatshirt or jacket appropriate for physical activity outside

School Uniform

All children should come to school in the school uniform stated in our School Uniform Policy. If there are any questions regarding this, please contact the school office.



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Walking home consent

This letter came home with your child earlier this week. Please ensure you complete the consent form if you would like your child to walk home from school on their own – we appreciate that many of you will have completed this form in previous years but, as many children have changed class and because circumstances for some families will have changed, we would be grateful if you could fill in and return the form again.

Arriving at school no earlier than 8.35am

If your child walks to school on their own, please ensure they do not set off too early. We are not insured to have unaccompanied children in the playground before this time. Thank you for your understanding.

Eden Camp

On Tuesday, Year 5 and 6 are going to Eden Camp. If you are yet to pay for the trip, please do so as soon as possible. We will leave school at around 9.15am and return to school at around 3pm. Children should wear school uniform. They will need to bring a packed-lunch. If you have any further questions about the trip, please contact the school office on Monday. We're really looking forward to an informative and fun trip that will kick-start our History topic on World War 2.

Kingswood Residential Trip

The Year 6 children are due to go on their residential trip to Kingswood on Wednesday 8th November until Friday 10th November.

Please contact the school office to find out your outstanding balance or with any issues regarding payment.

Further information about the site is available at: <https://www.kingswood.co.uk/locations/dukeshouse-wood>

Once again, thank you for your continued support of your child's education at Bilton Grange Primary School.

Yours sincerely

The Year 5/6 Team

