

Upper Phase Newsletter

① 19/9/2014

Creative Weeks

For the first two weeks the children in Year 5 (Turquoise Class) and Year 6 (Quartz Class) have enjoyed settling back into school life by undertaking a wealth of creative activities.

These have included:

- Visits to St Neots museum
- Year 6 Play Leader training- alongside children from Middlefield.
- Fantastic art work including paintings of Autumn fruit and leaves.
- The building by Year 5 of some impressive Anderson shelters as part of their WW2 History topic.
- The production by Year 5 of the first batch of soup of the new school year.
- Visit to school by GenR8 to support Year 6 in making 'cool choices'.

External coaches

Once again the children in Year 5 and 6 have the opportunity to work with a range of skilled coaches.

Autumn term

Year 5 – Games, zumba, dance and singing.

Year 6 – Gymnastics, dance and singing.

Please ensure that your child has the correct kit for all PE lessons. Indoor kit must be black shorts and a plain white T-shirt but the children will need trainers for outdoors. As the weather gets chillier they will also need jogging bottoms and a warm top such as a fleece.

We recommend that children bring their PE kit on Mondays and leave it at school until Friday. Winhills PE bags are now available from the school office.

Reading and Homework

Next week both Year 5 and Year 6 will begin their Literacy and Mathematics curriculum in earnest. Please support your child's learning by encouraging them to complete all their homework on time and to a high standard.

We expect all children to:

- Read at least **five times per week** and to record this in their Home Reading Record Books. These look very much like secondary school 'planners' and are designed to help children take a more mature attitude to their learning. At this age most children are able to read fairly independently and fluently but still need to discuss their reading with an adult so we ask you to complete an in depth 'Book Talk' with them at least once a week.
- One hour of Maths Whizz per week to practise and consolidate maths skills.
- Complete one piece of writing each week. The children will be given their Literacy homework next **Friday 26th September**.
- Sometimes children may be given small additional tasks or research to complete.

Attendance and Lateness

Well done Year 5 and Year 6!

Year 5 won the first attendance award of the new school year with 100% in the week beginning 8th September. They have earned 15 mins extra playtime!

Year 6 was the only class to have no 'lates' in the same week.

This is a fantastic start to the year and will really make a difference to learning. Please remember that the register is taken at 8.55am.