



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year! I am delighted to be teaching Year 6 this year and look forward to working with both you and your child to make this a successful and enjoyable year of learning.

I would like to share some important information about routines and expectations for the year:

PE: PE lessons will take place on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays**. Please ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days. The kit should include a **red t-shirt, black shorts or black tracksuit bottoms, red or black jumper**. Please do not send your children in wearing football shirts.

Swimming: Swimming sessions will take place on **Monday afternoons**. We have secured use of the swimming pool and a qualified swimming teacher at Girton. Children will go in small groups for a period of **six weeks**, and all children will be given the opportunity to take part throughout the school year. Towards the end of the year, those who require additional support to meet the national curriculum requirements will receive **top-up swimming sessions**. Further information will be sent out soon to let you know if your child will be swimming in the autumn term. Spring term groups will be sent out to parents before the Christmas holidays.

Trips: Year 6 will be attending PGL in the Autumn Term as well as visiting Newstead Abbey to learn more about the Victorians.

Home Learning: Maths home learning will be completed via the **White Rose Maths Home Journals**. Children will be informed which pages they are expected to complete and when the work is due. Please support your child in keeping up with these tasks – they match the maths learning that is taking place in the classroom.

Reading: We expect children to record their reading in their home learning diaries. Children should aim to complete a minimum of **three sessions of 20 minutes reading each week**. In addition, each child will be provided with a **CGP Reading Comprehension book** and will be expected to complete **one task per week**.

Home learning will be shared with the children on a Friday; completed work needs to be handed in by Wednesday of the following week; the expectation is that children do not spend longer than 30 minutes on each activity; if home learning is taking longer than this, please let me know and I will make any adaptations required.

Curriculum Overview: Our yearly overview of topics and themes for Year 6 is available on the school website for your reference. This will help you stay informed about what your child will be learning throughout the year.

Behaviour and Rewards: We will be using **Class Dojo**, a points-based system, to record and celebrate children's positive learning behaviours.

This term our class priorities are as follows:

- Using the written methods in addition, subtraction, multiplication and short division.
- Working together as part of a team.
- Taking pride in the quality of our work.
- Completing and bringing in our home learning when it is due.

Getting to know me...

In school, I am the subject lead for maths and PE. I am a huge advocate for the benefits of PE and the important skills, such as teamwork, discipline and perseverance, that they help foster and develop.

Outside of school I am Derby County fan and season ticket holder; I try to go to as many games as possible. In my spare time, I love running and compete regularly over distances of 10k to marathon.

At home, I live with my girlfriend and dog, a hungry, food-stealing labrador who thinks he is 1/10 of his actual size. I am an indifferent cook; however, since I have moved outside of the Deliveroo radius I have had to learn to refine my culinary skills – I do make (if I say so) a delicious Thai green curry. I love visiting new places around the world.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead, full of learning, growth, and fun. Thank you for your support in helping your child settle into Year 6 and achieve their very best. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch – my door is always open at the end of the day!

Yours sincerely,
Mr Straw