SIMONSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Dream Believe and Achieve

Welcome to Year 6

Teachers – Miss Todd and Mrs Hills
Teaching Assistants – Mrs Davidson and Miss Atkinson

<u>The School Day</u>

School starts at 8.55am. Children may come into school at 8:50 so they are ready in the classroom to start learning at 8:55am.
Lunch time is 12.15-1.10pm
School ends at 3.15pm

Please be punctual both arriving and collecting your children. If you are unavoidably delayed please contact the school office. Staff will be in the playground to meet children and parents both at the start and the end of the day.

Lunchtimes

School meals may be paid for one week in advance on a Monday morning. Money should be sent in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount. The cost of a lunch is £2.00 and is therefore £10.00 per week. Alternatively you may provide your child with a packed lunch. If you think that you may be entitled to free school meals please ask at the office.

The Curriculum

At Simonside every Year 6 child has a daily maths and literacy lesson. Literacy lessons involve the children developing their writing, reading, speaking and listening skills. The children also take part in drama activities to help stimulate ideas for written work. We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books that link in with the topics for each half term.

In Year 6 the children have 4 numeracy lessons with the class teacher which involves all aspects of mathematics work including mental and written calculations.

For one maths session a week, the children have an Assertive Mentoring maths lesson. Here the children work with other children across the school who are working at the same level as them. All staff members across key stage 2 and Year 2 are involved in delivering these sessions. The children are often in much smaller groups in comparison to their normal class. The children are given a short test each week as part of these sessions. If they achieve 'green' standard (80% or above) three weeks running, the children are given the opportunity to move up into the next ability group.

Topic maps are on the school website for each class for each term. Where possible we try to link topic work in with the other subjects the children are doing. Please have a look at our class blog as regularly as you can – we will keep you up to date on what we've been learning in class. This year we would also like to communicate with you via Class Dojo – please see attached invitation.

Homework

This year the nature of homework will be different from the 'Creative Homework' format they have been given for the past few years. Literacy and Maths tasks will be set weekly. This work will be based on what we have done in class and will not be new to the children. It will be set at a level that children can access for themselves: they may need encouragement to do their homework but shouldn't need help to complete it. All children should please ask for support at school (before the homework deadline) if they have been unable to complete their homework. Homework will be set on a **Friday** and returned the following **Wednesday**. It is expected that all homework tasks will be completed and returned to school on time. If homework is not completed and returned to school for the deadline, then children will do a detention the same day.

The children also get a set of spellings each week to learn- these are usually given out on a Monday and tested on a Friday. Weekly 'quick homework' might also be given out for maths and this should only take the children about 10 minutes. This will focus on developing key skills in this subject. It would also be beneficial if they could practise their multiplication tables as often as possible. Finally, if you could listen to your child read at home, or ask them questions about what they are reading this would be very highly effective in securing progress.

Important days and dates for this academic year

Monday – Spellings given out

Tuesday- P.E. (P.E. kits need to be in school)

Wednesday – Homework to be returned.

Thursday-P.E. (P.E. kits need to be in school).

Friday – Spelling test and homework to be handed out.

P.E. kit consists of a green t-shirt, black shorts and plimsoles. Trainers will also be needed for outdoor P.E. in September and the warmer months. It will be noted down if children don't have their P.E. kit (including P.E. shoes) and if this happens 3 times across a half term then they will be given a detention.

Fruit and Drink

KS2 Children can bring in fruit to eat at break time.

We believe that children should take regular drinks of water throughout the school day. Children should bring a water bottle to school, clearly marked with their name. They will also have access to water in the classroom.

Absence from School

If your child is absent from school, parents must telephone the school office by 09.30.

- Contact school as soon as possible to let us know the reason why your child is absent and how long they are likely to be off for.
- Without an explanation the absence will be marked as **UNAUTHORISED.**
- Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last occurrence of sickness.
- Please arrange to take family holidays during school holidays. Permission will not be given for holidays during term time.
- Please try to organise all Dentist and non-urgent Doctors' appointments outside of school time

Important Date for your diary

There will be an opportunity to meet class teachers on 19.09.18 at 3:15pm in classrooms.

A meeting led by Mrs Hills and Miss Todd will be held for Y6 parents on 4.10.18 at 3:15pm. This meeting will introduce you to the expectations of Year 6 and inform you about the SATs that your children will be taking in May 2019. We would love to see as many of you there as possible.

Finally, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Todd and Mrs Hills