

Moving up to Years 5 & 6

Parent Information Evening

An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood, showing several houses with gabled roofs and a large parking lot in the foreground. The houses are surrounded by dense green trees. The image is slightly faded to allow text to be overlaid.

September 2021

Please be aware that the following information may be subject to amendments due to the COVID-19 Situation and the information contained herein relates to ‘normal practice’.

Outline

- What's different in Years 5 & 6?
- Outline of the Day
- Curriculum
- Sport
- Music & LAMDA
- Communication
- Leadership & Enrichment

What's different in Years 5 & 6?

- Exclusively subject specialist taught, moving classrooms for every lesson
- Independence & organisation expected throughout school day
- Extended Prep Period - (until 4:25pm)
- Introduction of Critical Thinking (Year 5 & 6) and STEM (Year 6)
- Senior School transition discussions become more focused
- Expectations & opportunities grow (representing the school)

Outline of the Day

- Breakfast club 7.25am (**surcharge**)
- School opens at 8.00am, Registration 8.20 - 8.40am (**arrive by 8.30am please**)
- Lessons begin at 8.45am (Assembly on a Monday)
- 9 lessons a day, 35 minutes each, many are 'doubles'
- 30 minute break time - Snacks (**Nut free**)
- An hour for lunch
- Lessons finish at 3.50pm
- Prep completed in forms from 3.55pm until 4.25pm (**In Year 6, in preparation for Transition to their Senior School - the children may have 2 preps per night in the latter stages of the year**)
- Activities until 5.15pm
- Supper available until 6.00pm (**surcharge**)

Curriculum

- Curriculum extends across the following subjects - Maths & English (taught in sets), Science, Computing, History, Geography, R.S., French, Spanish, Art, Music, Drama, PSHCE, Critical Thinking, PE & Games
- Assessment takes place in all subjects - formative and summative
- Formal testing takes place at end of topic and during dedicated weeks
- CATS tests administered in September (Year 6) & October (Year 5)
- Progress Tests in English & Maths in Year 5 - this is useful data, however only captures a particular day (snap shot) and is a small part of the 'bigger picture'

Sport

- Games sessions two days prior to match days
- Matches played on Wednesday (Year 6) & Friday (Year 5)
- Some tournaments will take place outside of these times
- All children are given the opportunity to represent the school
- Team sheets on MSP
- Fixture list compiled to seek competitive fixtures for our children, which may involve travel to schools further afield
- Emphasis on development, decision making and personal improvement

Music & LAMDA

- Children perform at Carol service, Spring concert & as many other opportunities as possible
- Individual lessons continue
- Ms Moon continues to work with pupils in LAMDA and yearly concerts take place
- Any queries or concerns re. Music to Mr Reeves
- Children expected to attend 'Catch Up' club to complete any work missed due to individual lessons
- Timetabling endeavours to schedule lessons to avoid clashes and repeat days/times

Communication

- MSP - contact Form teachers via online form for information sharing
- Form Teacher remains main point of contact
- Subject specific questions - please do email staff directly
- Please make us aware of any areas of concern or events that may affect your child(ren), this is a two-way process
- Increased use of social media
- Any logistical queries via School Office

Leadership & Enrichment

- Year 6 Leadership roles - rotated termly
 - Head Boy & Head Girl (Annual appointments), House Captains, Sports Captains, Head Musician, Chorister, Librarian, Digital Leaders, School Council
- Leadership training given - visiting experts
- Enrichment weeks - STEM Week, Literature & Arts week etc.
- Residential Week - 1st week in June - 4 nights in Devon (Year 5) or abroad (Year 6)
- National & local competitions entered across curriculum
- Visiting speakers
- Two week Leavers' Programme at the end of Year 6, incorporating Drama Production

Overarching aims of Y5/6

- Prepare children for transition to secondary school - both sitting a variety of tests and arrival at secondary school
- Emphasis on rounded education in Y6, enabling children to collaborate and develop skills ready for transition to secondary school
- Y6 still have end of year school assessments so keep working productively
- Real emphasis on **confidence, independence and resilience** in Y5/6

Previous Questions -

- **What is done to prepare children for the 11+?**
 - All children cover the Maths, English, VR & NVR aspects of the test and GL Assessment (New in 2018) will administer the test, the company we use for our CATs & Progress tests for familiarisation
 - CT lessons cover the non English & Maths curriculum aspects in Year 5, whilst concentrates on Mindset, Philosophy & wellbeing in Year 6
- **Is there streaming for those looking at grammar vs independent in Y5?**
 - No, all children are prepared for the entrance options they are taking, extra sessions are provided where necessary (MTs, Wycombe Abbey as examples)
Interview practice is booked with Headmaster or a member of the Senior Leadership Team
- **What work should the children be doing over the summer to 'keep going'?**
 - It is advised that children take the time to relax and regenerate after a particularly tricky year and the hard work they have done. An hour a week of formal English or Maths would be the maximum we advise, with daily reading.