

## COOMB BRIGGS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Royal Drive, Immingham, N.E. Lincolnshire DN40 2DY

Headteacher : Jayne Day B.Ed Hons

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Website: [www.coombbriggsprimary.co.uk](http://www.coombbriggsprimary.co.uk)

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been approached by several parents with regards to how best you can support and prepare your child for the year 6 assessments and transition to secondary school.

At school, preparations are on- going throughout Year 5 and 6, and are incorporated into our pastoral support programme as well as the academic syllabus. Our expectations in terms of behaviour and attitudes are far greater, so that they do not become vulnerable at secondary school and are able to cope with the social, as well as academic demands. In recent years we have strengthened our links with feeder schools so we are quite clear about rules, regulations and protocols.

Mr Friggieri has had significant experience of Key stage 3, and when appointed, it became part of his remit to adopt a secondary approach in Year 6, lessening a gulf between the school cultures and making children more resilient.

All primary schools are encountering issues surrounding the exposure of pupils to adult themes and information from social media sites. From experience we know that many children are not emotionally mature enough to deal with issues and peer pressures, and where possible we have supported children and families in a sensitive manner with them being quickly resolved.

In May 2017, the Year 6 pupils will be formally tested in aspects of Reading and Mathematics with teacher assessments of Writing. The system of scoring these assessments changed significantly in 2016 from levels to numerical scores, with a threshold of 100 being deemed as age expected. However, some children who attain a score of less than 100 are deemed to have made a good level of progress if their Key Stage 1 prior attainment was lower than age expected. All pupils are set challenging, but realistic individual targets. Children identified as 'borderline' in terms of potential of attaining an age expected standard receive focussed intervention and support and more specific homework tasks.

If you have accessed the content of the current Year 6 curriculum you may have been surprised by the expectations. Some of you have stated that you previously encountered such standards at secondary level. Although there is a huge focus on assessments and testing, our aim is for all of our children to enjoy learning experiences through discovery, creativity and self- motivation. Children should leave primary school with an excitement and passion for learning, with high aspirations for the future.

The Year 6 agenda includes weekly self-assessments and homework tasks. Children are made aware of their individual focus areas which may include increasing pace of reading/writing. To attain a score of 100+ pupils need to read and retrieve information quickly and accurately and carry our mathematical calculations by sharp mental recall. The new format test papers are quite comprehensive and in order to attain the desired score it is crucial that the majority of the content is completed. We have samples for you to view. Mr Bell has already contacted you offering specific support for Maths

By Year 6 pupils may prefer to read silently at home, but by providing them with an audience to read aloud to you will gain an indication of their pace, expression and use of grammar. Question your child about content, predictions and ask them about the use of specific vocabulary etc. If children scan text rather than read, think and analyse they are less likely to be able to answer questions. It is crucial that they have access to information text as well as fiction.



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There are useful websites geared towards the Year 6 tests that support Maths and English.

Your child is a unique individual with regards to strengths/weaknesses and attitudes. There is a wide emotional spectrum within the cohort and some children need more guidance and support than others. Although there are age expectations we know that everyone has a different journey.

If you require more specific information with regards to supporting your child then please do not hesitate to contact us. We are scheduling parent consultation evenings in March.

## Maths

- Weekly Stage 6 (Year 6) Assertive Mentoring tests to track and monitor progress.
- Weekly multiplication and associated division facts revision and test.
- Daily mental maths questions.
- New Collins Busy Ants scheme of work tailored for the new Curriculum.
- Weekly Numeracy homework (Assertive Mentoring test) to reinforce and deepen in class learning.
- Maths buddies for students who need extra support.

## Reading

- Home reading record to track reading at home.
- Weekly whole class reading lessons based around inference, deduction, comprehension and literal retrieval.
- Targeted in class reading.
- Daily reading in school.

## Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

- Daily SPAG practise.
- Weekly spelling tests (at Year 6 level).
- Weekly Grammar Hammer tests to track understanding and identify gaps in learning.
- Daily/ Weekly skills based writing tasks to include appropriate SPAG writing features.
- Spelling homework for extra practise.
- Spelling buddies for students who need extra support.

## MAY 2017 YEAR 6 TEST SCHEDULE

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	English Reading
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	SPAG Paper 1
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	SPAG Paper 2
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths Paper 1
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths Paper 2
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths Paper 3

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr Friggieri at any time.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Day  
Headteacher

