



# Ashford Church of England Primary School

Friday 6 January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you all had the most amazing Christmas break and enjoyed a well-deserved rest.

The Year 6 team have been really impressed with the entries we have received for the 'Reading Olympics' task, which was set for Christmas home learning. The children who have taken part have really got involved, read enthusiastically and engaged with a variety of texts to earn points. We are really pleased with the outcome and are currently adding up total points to award our Gold, Silver and Bronze medal winners. Watch this space! Thank you for your involvement with this, we do truly appreciate your continual support and encouragement with your child's home learning.

Spring term is by far the busiest term for Year 6 and is the time where we really begin to gear up towards SATs. A curriculum newsletter will be coming out next week informing you of our spring term curriculum, PE slots and additional visits or keys dates that are up-coming. However, we also wanted to keep you all updated on what we are doing in class to support your child further in the run up to the Summer Term.

As in previous years, this term is a balance of SATs support and teaching our busy and creative curriculum. As a result, we will be running our annual Year 6 booster sessions in and outside of the school day. These are planned to support guide and challenge your child in tailored made group settings. This means teaching groups are smaller and more time can be directed to each individual. In-school sessions will run alongside current timetable and will utilise different parts of the school day. We are incredibly lucky to have Mrs Hume join the year 6 team, with 12 years of teaching experience in an outstanding Richmond school. She will be supporting a maths group, as well as a daily reading support group. Father Stuart, Mrs Witt and Mr Austin have also all volunteered to support the year 6 team and lead boosters, interventions or even coaching in the run up to SATs. We thank them in advance for giving up their time to support us. Year 6 class teachers will lead the rest of the sessions alongside our teaching timetable. Every child across both classes will be involved in some form of booster session, be it in, before or after the school day.

After school boosters are by invitation only and will be led by Mr Dodman, Miss Mortimore, Miss Beacham or Mr Austin. The invitations will be sent out next week, with an aim to start the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Please make sure reply slips are returned promptly as places are on a first come first serve basis.

As far as home support is concerned, we would be really grateful if you continued to support your child with their home learning, times tables and regular reading. Evidence has proven that regular reading, with quality texts benefits all areas of learning, inspiring writing, understanding grammar, extending language and even unpicking maths problems. There are also some ideas on our school website under the 'how to help your child' section, if you wanted to explore other areas of the curriculum.

Thank you again for everything and we wish you and your families all the very best for 2017.

Kind regards,

The Year 6 Team