



YEAR 6 KITES

Class Teacher: Mrs Barnes

Supported by Mrs Thomas

Important diary dates and reminders

Meet the Teacher – 2:50pm 10th September; all information will be popped on the class page in case you cannot make it!

School Ambassador Applications – due in by 11th September – details at end of note

Rural Life Centre WW2 Visit – Monday 5th October - parent volunteers needed, please contact the office

Parent's evening – Thursday 15th October, from 2pm

Half Term – Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October

Welcome back! Kites 2026-27



I am delighted to share that the first few days back at school have been fantastic! Kites are excited to be back together and eager to dive into their learning.

This short week has given us the chance to revisit expectations in class and to reflect on the importance of approaching learning with positivity, resilience, and a willingness to embrace challenge. We have talked about how mistakes are not something to fear but rather the first step towards success.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Meet the Teacher afternoon. For those unable to attend, please don't worry — I will upload key information onto our class page.

Housekeeping

- On our PE days are Thursdays and Fridays. Please could children come into school on those days in their PE kit.
- Snacks at break time should be either fruit or vegetables only.

- If you would like your child to walk home after the school day ends, please email office, this information will be passed on to me.
- Kites will be visiting the Rural Life Centre to further explore our WW2 topic on 5th Oct – I would appreciate parent volunteers to come forward to join us, please contact the office if you would like to join.
- Homework and reading is detailed at the end of this note. Given out on a Friday, due in the following Wednesday.
- Spellings are given on a Friday. Test is on the following Friday. Kites will be given their first lot of spellings next Friday to be tested on the 18th September.

Prefect Roles

There are many responsibilities that year 6s hold: House Captains, Sports Captains, Sports Crew, Eco Warriors, School Counsellors, Computer monitors, Worship Team, Wellbeing Ambassadors as well as School Ambassadors.

If your child wishes to apply for the School Ambassador role, applications are due in by 11th September – details at the end of this note.

Class update



Kites have already immersed themselves (quite literally!) in their learning this week. In English, we have begun exploring *The Lost Happy Endings* by Carol Ann Duffy, a modern fairy tale that follows the adventures of a young girl named Jub, who lives deep within the forest. Duffy's writing is beautifully evocative, rich in imagery and filled with thought-provoking language, providing Year 6 with a wealth of inspiration for their own creative writing. To deepen their understanding of the text, the children enjoyed a fully immersive lesson in the woods, using the natural surroundings to spark their imaginations and experience the atmosphere of the story first-hand.



Drawing on this experience, they began crafting their own descriptive writing, carefully selecting ambitious vocabulary and vivid imagery to engage the reader and bring their ideas to life.

In Maths, Year 6 have been consolidating their understanding of place value and working confidently with numbers up to ten one million. Next week, we will move on to exploring negative numbers and rounding to the nearest power of ten. In RE, we explored the Christian concept of the Trinity. The children thought

carefully about the idea of “three in one” and discussed how different examples - such as water in its three states or an egg with its shell, white and yolk - can help us begin to understand this belief.

The children have already shown real enthusiasm, curiosity and teamwork, making for a very positive start to Year 6. It has been wonderful to see them settling in so well and embracing their learning. I wish you all a lovely and relaxing weekend.

Mrs Barnes

Homework this week

Home learning will be assigned each **Friday** and must be in by the following **Wednesday** (or before) in order to be marked. It will broadly include: Maths plus another subject, spellings to learn and reading. The children will have homework folders; presentation is key and I have spoken to the class about expectations in terms of layout, organisation and pen choice. Thank you for your support.

Maths

It is vital that Kites know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of this half-term. It is the KIRF for this period and they will all be tested. Tables and division facts are a fundamental part of maths and if the children are fluent with these facts, it will make other areas of maths so much easier to access. Please login to <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> for some timed practise.

History

Why Did World War II Start?

Please could the children create an A4 poster explaining why World War II started. Think carefully about the different factors and events that contributed to the outbreak of the war. Your poster should explain the key reasons clearly and include interesting facts, dates, pictures and/or diagrams to make it informative and engaging.

Some questions to consider:

- What happened after World War I?
- How did the Treaty of Versailles contribute to tensions?
- Who was Adolf Hitler and what did he want?
- How did the rise of Nazi Germany affect Europe?
- What was the policy of appeasement?
- What happened when Germany invaded Poland in 1939?

These websites might be useful:

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/World-War-II/353934>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-world-war-two/zjnyscw>

https://www.ducksters.com/history/world_war_ii/causes_of_ww2.php



Lastly... Reading Please encourage your child to read, read, read 😊

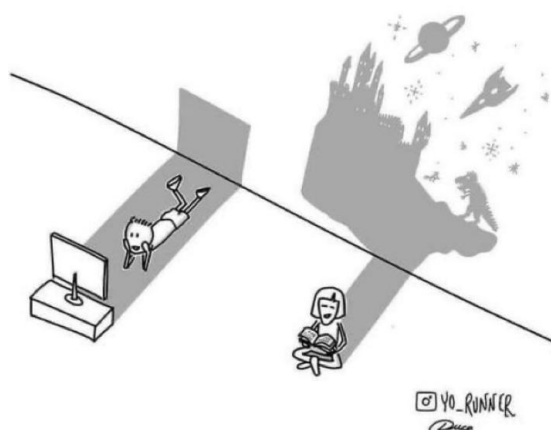


I am impressed that so many Kites are reading daily; it helps with every area of their learning and moreover opens doors to the best adventures! Please could your child chart their reading down in their new reading record – this should be housed within their book and brought home each day from school and back in the following morning – there might be a chance in the day for reading! Furthermore, I will be monitoring it every so often.

In due course I will be giving each Kite a **Reading Passport** to encourage a wide range of reading: genres and authors. When I do, I will explain the initiative further.

To further strengthen your child's inference, prediction and retrieval skills, each Kite will be given a login for **ReadTheory.org**, an online reading program that adapts to individual ability levels. Over the next fortnight, all children will bring home their login details. When they first log in, they will complete a short diagnostic quiz. After this, the program will automatically assign texts (around 200 words each) followed by a quiz. The system adjusts difficulty based on performance. This ensures children are consistently challenged at the right level, without being overwhelmed or held back. I would like the children to complete at least two reading tasks a week, more if they wish to!

More on this in due course.





School Ambassador Job Description

Main purpose of the job

- To share a passion and commitment for Grayswood CE Primary School
- To support the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team in promoting and representing the school

Main responsibilities and tasks

- Represent the school at certain events
- Make speeches promoting the school
- Show visitors round
- Contribute written pieces for the school newsletter
- Write thank you cards/ letters for special visitors who come to the school

School Ambassador Person Specification

Experience

- Experience of being an excellent role model for others
- Experience of talking to others confidently /or giving speeches

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Good attitude towards every aspect of school life
- Positive relationships with pupils of all ages
- A good school leader
- Clear and open communication with staff at Grayswood
- Knows the school rules and values and is able to consistently demonstrate these
- Ability to communicate to large groups confidently
- Ability to recognise and respond to others' achievements
- Always there when required

*If you are interested in applying for the role of **School Ambassador**, please submit a letter addressed to **Miss Cole by Friday 11th September**, explaining how you meet the person specification outlined above and what you could bring to the role. All applicants will then take part in a brief interview with **Miss Cole and Fi Gwynn**. On **17th September**, all applicants will then have the opportunity to present their **pitch to the school**. The school community will then vote to decide who will take on the role.*

Deadline for applications: Friday 11th September

Interviews: Within the school week

Presentation to the school: Thursday 17th September

We look forward to hearing your ideas and finding out what you could bring to the role!