UKS2 Newsletter
Summer 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you have enjoyed some sunshine over the Easter break. Below, we have included the key information regarding topics, dates and routines that will be taking place this term. We are looking forward to an exciting final term to the school year.

Teaching Staff

Year 5 – Mr. Cunha
Mrs. Carney (Teaching assistant)
Year 5/6 – Mr. Sutton
Mrs. Duffy (Teaching assistant)
Year 6 - Mrs. Jones
Mrs. Bailey (Teaching assistant)

Our Curriculum this term.

English – This term, we will be exploring the text 'The Paperbag Prince' by Colin Thompson. The Paperbag Prince is an old man living in a railway carriage on a rubbish dump. He knows that even rubbish can sometimes contain treasure, and that if he stays long enough, gentle nature will heal the countryside and make the green come again. Using this text as our stimulus, we will master the use of modal verbs, formality, advanced punctuation and cohesive devices. Our final piece will be a persuasive information hybrid text. Year Six will also be writing a balanced argument on the use of mobile phones by children.

Maths – We will continue to follow the sequence within our maths mastery programme - 'Power Maths'. Power Maths is a whole class mastery programme designed to spark curiosity and excitement and help teachers nurture confidence in maths. During this term we will look at Geometry including the use of protractors and reflection and translations. This will be coupled with daily 15-minute mastering number sessions aimed at building the children's fluency within multiplication and division.



Science – Work this term will around the study of living things & their habitats. The children will describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics, and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants, and animals, as well as giving reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

History – As Historians, we will learn about the remarkable achievements of the ancient Maya. Through these activities, we will learn about the Maya perspective of time, the calendar system, writing, maths and the environment. In doing so, we will compare own history and that of the Maya. We will raise our awareness of the different

Geography – To link with our history topic, as Geographers we will ask, 'Where in the world did the Mayan people live?' We will use maps to focus on Central America, concentrating on environmental regions, key physical & human characteristics, countries, and major cities. We will look at the influence of the geography of Central America on where the Mayan people lived and their decline. We will then briefly consider the influence that Central America has in the world today. We will identify what global trade is before looking at a banana when discussing the need for

(though not inferior) ways of doing things and the complexity of human life.	Fair Trade in a range of Central American products such as coffee, cotton and bananas.

D.T. - As designers, we will be making our own felt phone cases.	**ART** - We will learn about set designs by making a model theatre inspired by poetry, prose, film or music.

RE – In the first half term, we will focus on Islam and question if a Muslim's belief in Akhirah (life after death) helps them to lead a good life. Then, focussing on Christianity, we will discuss how Christians show their commitment to God and evaluate if there is a best way.	**Computing** – This term, we will be continuing our video creation. This time we will be creating our own animations using an app called Plotagon. Later in the term, we will be making an interactive 360 VR image embedding video content to explain a concept. Through these units of work pupils are encouraged to be critical thinkers, problems solvers and computational thinkers while creating purposeful content to demonstrate how learning can be applied across the wider curriculum.

MFL – This term, Madam Chadwick will continue to explore, with the children, the patterns and sounds of language and engage in conversations with them to develop vocabulary, phrases, and basic language structures. Children will be encouraged to read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases, and simple writing. They will create sentences to describe people, places, and things, both orally and in writing.





Music – As musicians, pupils will learn about the different features of music from the stage and screen. This will culminate in our KS2 production of Annie.

PSHE – Our PSHE focus uses our 1 Decision scheme of work (https://www.1decision.co.uk/resources/parent-carer-zone) to teach children to understand the following themes: Anger: The unit looks at the ways in which we can manage our emotions when we are unable to do something we wanted to.
Puberty: We will send further and more detailed, information about this nearer the time.
Smoking: The smoking unit explores how someone can feel pressured in to smoking.

myHappymind



This term, we will continue incorporating the 'My Happy Minds' mental and emotional wellbeing programme into our timetable. Once a week, all children in school participate in activities linked to five modules - meet the brain, celebrate, appreciate, relate and engage. Each module introduces a new set of content and habits to help children build resilience, self-esteem and confidence.

PE sessions



A PE/Games kit is required on the following days:

Monday	Outdoor PE Y6
Tuesday	Outdoor PE Y5
Thursday	Indoor PE All Classes
Friday	Outdoor PE Y5/6

Topics – Yoga, Athletics, Badminton and Cricket
PE kit – house t-shirt, dark jogging bottoms. (This can be left in school in a named bag.)
Games kit - dark jogging bottoms, house T-shirt, trainers and spare socks. A carrier bag is useful to bring this occasionally wet and dirty kit home.

For safety reasons, please ensure children have long hair tied back and any earrings that cannot be removed will be covered with tape.

Exciting up coming events to look out for.



- Week beginning **11th May** is SATs week for **Y6**.
- **Friday 15th May** - To celebrate the end of Sats there will be a party for our **Year 6** children at 2.15 pm. We would be grateful if you could provide something for your child to share with others, e.g. cake, biscuits, crisps, etc. (No nuts please). Please note that we are unable to cook/warm up food. Drinks would also be much appreciated.
- **18th May – Y6** photographs (afternoon)
- **22nd May** – Sports Day
- **10th - 12th June** - **Y6** Junior Conway (Menai) Residential.
- **23rd June** – Year 5 maths competition at Stockport Grammar
- **6th July – PHS Induction Day – Y6**
- **Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 July 2026** Bikeability
- Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th July- KS2 Production
- **21st July** 6.30 – 8.15 pm – **Y6 Prom**
- **23rd July** – Leavers' Assembly

Bikeability

We are pleased to have booked the Year 6 children on the Bikeability Course on Monday 20th July and Tuesday 21st July. Bikeability is the government's national cycle training programme. It helps children to learn practical skills and understand how to cycle on today's roads. Year 6 participants must be able to ride; all those who take part will receive a certificate and badge. Children will need to wear a cycle helmet and have the use of a roadworthy bike. A letter of consent will be required. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Year 6/7 Transition

We understand that this is a very important part of year 6. Over the next few weeks, secondary school staff will be having meetings with us to discuss each child individually, regarding social, academic, and pastoral aspects. Meanwhile, Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Kennedy from Poynton High School will be making regular visits to work alongside and meet Year 6 children. Poynton High School will continue to create opportunities for classes to spend time there participating in different subjects. We will send more information regarding this as soon as we have it.

Lost Property

Please add names to all your children's clothing and equipment so that if lost they can be returned to them.

Homework



The children are now using their new maths homework books with great enthusiasm. These booklets enable the children to reinforce and develop maths used in the classroom.
Children should have also received their half-termly spelling list. A copy is also released on Microsoft Teams weekly. Spellings should continue to be learned weekly for tests on Fridays. Children should spend about 20 minutes per week on these spelling tasks. Completed homework should be uploaded onto Teams.
In addition, we expect children to read regularly. We believe it is a positive and beneficial exercise for children to read aloud to parents/ grandparents/older brothers and sisters at home. Even at this stage, it is extremely helpful if you encourage discussion about the plot, characters, and what may happen in the story.

Accelerated Reading



As part of our continued commitment to raising standards and progress in reading, all pupils have a reading book, which is part of the Accelerated Reading Scheme. Accelerated Reading is a scheme which levels all reading books within school. Once your child has read their book, they will be able to take an online quiz which will consolidate their understanding of the text. All

children will be issued with their own login so that they can complete the quiz related to their book and also monitor their progress and targets. Please access the Accelerated Reader platform for Lower Park by scanning the QR code (right). Within lessons, children will be given targets and rewards to maintain their focus and continue to engage their love of reading.

Our School Rule

We should smile, be friendly and care for one another
Be well mannered and polite
Speak the truth
Be fair
Treat each other with respect and how you would like to be treated
Be the best you can be.

School Values

Curious
Responsible
Active
Respect
Creative
Brave

Lower Park School

Naturally, we expect a high standard of behaviour and attitude as it is important to achieve a happy and purposeful classroom.

Communication:

As always, you are welcome to contact the school via email or phone call if you have any questions or queries.

If you feel that you could offer help in school in any way, for example by hearing children read, enriching a topic or displays, please do get in touch.

Finally, we look forward to an exciting and successful term, and we thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Jo Jones, Kath Bailey, Andy Sutton, Julie Duffy, Mike Cunha,, Carolyn Carney, Amelia Lomas. (UKS2 team)