Dear parents(s)/carers(s),

Welcome to Autumn Term 1 of Year 6! We do hope you’ve all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the exciting year ahead of us. The whole team, here in Year 6, are very much looking forward to helping your child excel and reach their full potential and welcome any communication from you.

Our first term involves lots of learning in relation to ‘World War II’! We are also incorporating this theme within our reading journey – which will surround diving deeper into The Machine Gunners (Robert Westall) and The Missing (Michael Rosen). Children are more than welcome to bring in any books or resources from home based around the topic… but please make sure these are clearly named or labelled.

Week to week a few things will be the same within our class. Here is a breakdown of the important things parents/carers need to know on a day to day basis:

* Year 6 **homework** will be set on a **Wednesday**. **This all needs to be completed and handed back in on the following Monday.** (Please see the ‘Homework Expectations’ on the inside cover of your child’s homework book)
* **PE** will take place on a **Tuesday** afternoon, please ensure your child(ren) come dressed in their PE uniform on this day.
* **Reading at home** is a real passion of ours. We would love all of the children within Year 6 to **read 5 times per week** to an adult outside of school. You are able to document this in the children’s yellow reading records, whereby we will keep a close eye (Monday-Monday) and any children fulfilling this task will be rewarded with a point towards their reading awards.

Please do not hesitate to contact us throughout the year. As always, we will be available on the playground every day after school, or you can email (SLT@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk) if needed. We are looking forward to another exciting school year and cannot wait to share this with all of the children!

Kindest regards,

Miss Cook, Mrs Ferris, Mrs Barr and Mrs Arnold.

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**Science – Evolution and Inheritance**

* Explain adaptations how animals and plants survive
* Describe the process of natural selection
* Explain what fossils can tell us
* Explain why animals can look different to their parents
* Explore the palaeontologist Mary Anning
* Describe the process of genetic modification

**English -**

* Traditional narratives – ‘A Hero’s Journey’:
* Producing extended narrative using the story as a frame for their own versions.
* Producing character study from text showing understanding of story and themes.

**U2.7 Why do Hindus want to be good?**

* Identify and explain Hindu beliefs, e.g. dharma, karma, samsara, moksha, using technical terms accurately
* Give meanings for the story of the man in the well and explain how it relates to Hindu beliefs about samsara, moksha, etc.
* Connect the four Hindu aims of life and the four stages of life with beliefs about dharma, karma, moksha, etc.
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* beliefs about dharma, karma, moksha, etc.

**History - World War II**

Within our history lessons we are going investigate and delve deeper into the following:

* Understand where WWII sits in both the timeline of world history and our recent history
* Understand why and how Hitler rose to power
* Understand and recognise differing styles of leadership
* Understand ‘The Blitz’ and how it impacted the life of those in Britain
* Understand the life of a child holocaust survivor in WW2.
* Consider the reliability of sources and understand if everyone affected by WW2 in the same way

**Guided Reading**

* The Machine Gunners, Robert Westall
* The Missing, Michael Rosen
* Welcome to Nowhere, Elizabeth Laird

**Art - drawing**

* Mark making
* Independently demonstrate a wide variety of ways to make different marks
* Shape/form
* Draw with increasing accuracy from observation and imagination.

**PSHE – Me and My Relationships**

* Working together
* Let’s negotiate
* Solve the friendship problem
* Assertiveness skills
* Behave yourself
* Acting appropriately

**Maths -**

* Place value and number
* Decimals
* Multiplication and division
* Geometry: position and direction