Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Badgers Year 5 and indeed welcome back to Year 6!

I hope this information will be useful to you and that you will continue to be involved with your child’s education. Indeed, studies have shown that parents who are engaged in what their children do in class are at a greater opportunity of success in school than those children whose parents are not. At Great Wilbraham we strive to get the very best outcomes for all our children.

Please do not hesitate to come and see me at the end of school should you have a problem or a niggle. These things are best sorted out face to face when they are dealt with swiftly. If the problem is a bigger one then I am happy to arrange an appointment to meet with you to discuss it and resolve it. In this instance, I would urge you to contact the office via email on: admin@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk to arrange a convenient time to meet.

Badger class will be taught by Mrs Dawn Noble on Fridays. We will have TA support every morning from Mrs Alice Chapman and on 4 afternoons by Mrs Annie Raw.

**Our PE days:** All children need a named PE kit in school on a **Thursday** and a **Friday**.

Please ensure that all children’s belongings are labelled. Children with long hair will need their hair tied back and clipped for PE. Earrings must be removed.

**Reading:**

Our aim is that all children will have fostered a genuine love of reading because reading makes you brainy! They will read at least once a week to an adult as part of Reading for Pleasure and have opportunities to analyse shared texts and read quietly throughout the week.

We ask that you sign their book when they read at home – at least 3 times a week.

They will also have an opportunity to hear an adult read to them several times a week through a class book.

**Writing:**

Our aim is that the children will write every day and will not see it as a chore but a way to express their thoughts. They will learn through Talk for Writing - learning a text to embed new language, structure, sentence construction, reinforce spellings and use key text features.

They will have handwriting practice, regular grammar practice and 2 to 3 spelling sessions per week.

**Maths:**

Our aim is that the children will work primarily with number to become confident mathematicians. They will have access to resources and have opportunities to explain their reasoning and thinking around problems.

Maths lessons will take place every day with a specific learning objective.

**Topic:**

You should hopefully have received a topic web for the term with key learning information to give you a guide as to what we will be covering.

Topics will have a Geographical, Historical or Scientific theme. DT and Art will link with the theme. This term the umbrella topic for the whole school is ‘Living Planet’ - looking specifically at natural resources, biomes, climates, Ordnance Survey maps and the circulatory system.

Spring Term: ‘Homes & Habitats’ – looking at habitats, evolution and inheritance & Darwin

Summer Term: ‘Back in the Day’ – looking at Ancient Egypt

**Homework:**

The government has set the expected amount of time spent on homework in Years 5 & 6 as 30 minutes per day. Homework Club is open for children to complete unfinished homework on **Thursday** lunchtimes at 12.30 pm in Badger Class. Badgers are expected to read at least 3x a week and get their journals signed. Spelling takes the form of choosing and learning the key words they are unsure of from their sheet (highlighted in Homework Books). We will be testing the keywords on a half termly basis. A maths and a grammar activity. Nearer the end of the Autumn Term, Year 6’s will be given booklets to complete as preparation and revision.

**SATS:** Year 6 will be taking their Key Stage 2 Sats tests in May 2019. No need to worry as we are a long way off! I will send you details of this at a later stage, inviting you in to talk about expectations and things you need to be aware of.

I very much look forward to getting to know you and your child.

Many kind regards,

Kay Neish

Badger Class Teacher (KS2 Lead) & Senior Teacher