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Principal: Mr Roger Farley

Thursday 2nd May 2019

Dear parent/carer,

Year 6 are rapidly approaching their last months in their primary school. This is an exciting time for the children as they mature into young adults. In July, there will be a full week of transition for those going to Blackpool High schools. In the week of 13th May, there are the SATs exams. We have prepared your children well for these exams in school, and I thank you for your help supporting them at home. As a guide, in preparation for Year 7, the expectation is that children in Year 6 will do around 30-45 minutes of "homework" a day. This may be set by the teacher, or may be extra reading or work done independently around an identified weakness or just an area of interest. Reading is crucial to this. This doesn't have to be a novel, it could be reading on a website (we provide Bug Club with lots of on-line books to read).

Additionally, the expectation for Year 6 children is to conduct themselves in a more mature manner, this can already be seen by many of the children who are taking responsibility for their learning and around school as monitors and helpers. To further prepare the children, we will be adopting a similar behaviour sanction to Blackpool high schools, after school detentions. This sanction has always been available in our school but I thought I would write to draw your attention to it. We would give 24 hours notice of the detention and ensure no detention would be given without having contact with the parent/guardian. For those who are interested in the legislation, if you google "Behaviour and discipline in schools Advice for headteachers and school staff- January 2016" you will find the whole document, I enclose a summary of the detention guidance below.

What the law allows:

***Teachers have a power to issue detention to pupils (aged under 18).***

***Schools must make clear to pupils and parents that they use detention (including detention outside of school hours) as a sanction.***

***Parental consent is not required for detentions.***

***Detentions outside school hours: School staff should not issue a detention where they know that doing so would compromise a child's safety. Whether the parents ought to be informed of the detention.***

***In many cases it will be necessary to do so, but this will depend on the circumstances. For instance, notice may not be necessary for a short after school detention where the pupil can get home safely; Whether suitable travel arrangements can be made by the parent for the pupil. It does not matter if making these arrangements is inconvenient for the parent.***

We trust you will support us in preparing children for their next exciting steps in their education. If you have any questions or queries, please contact your child's year 6 teacher in the first instance.

As the end of year approaches dates for you diary:

Sports day will be in the week commencing 3rd June (Year group days to be confirmed)

Y5+6 Showcase 2.30pm Tuesday 18th June

Leavers' Assembly 2pm Friday 19th July

There will also be an end of Year 6 celebration day for the children, this will be by invitation only and dependent on behaviour.

Roger Farley