

Year 6 Curriculum Information 2011
Autumn Term

Welcome to the start of a new year. I am thrilled to be teaching Year 6 once again and am very much looking forward to the year ahead. The Autumn term promises to be action packed! Please find below an outline of the areas to be covered, including a brief overview of my expectations of our Year 6 pupils.

Literacy

The Power of Reading will be a main focus this term, presenting many opportunities to explore fiction writing. Pupils will enjoy reading a wide range of stories, using drama, oral skills and art to retell and adapt main events. *Good Night Mr Tom* will provide excellent opportunity for this, whilst also linking in well with our topic work. The Power of Reading project encourages children to analyse the language of a story and we look forward to seeing this improving the children's writing.

We will consider the features of VCOP in all of our writing this year.

VCOP stands for:

Vocabulary (also known to the children as 'wow words')
Connectives (joining sentences with ambitious joining words)
Openers (using various interesting ways to start a paragraph)
Punctuation (trying to use ambitious punctuation e.g. :!" " () ...)

However, we will also focus on **Purpose, Format, Audience** and **Tone** in Year 6 in order to further improve the quality of children's writing.

You can help by:

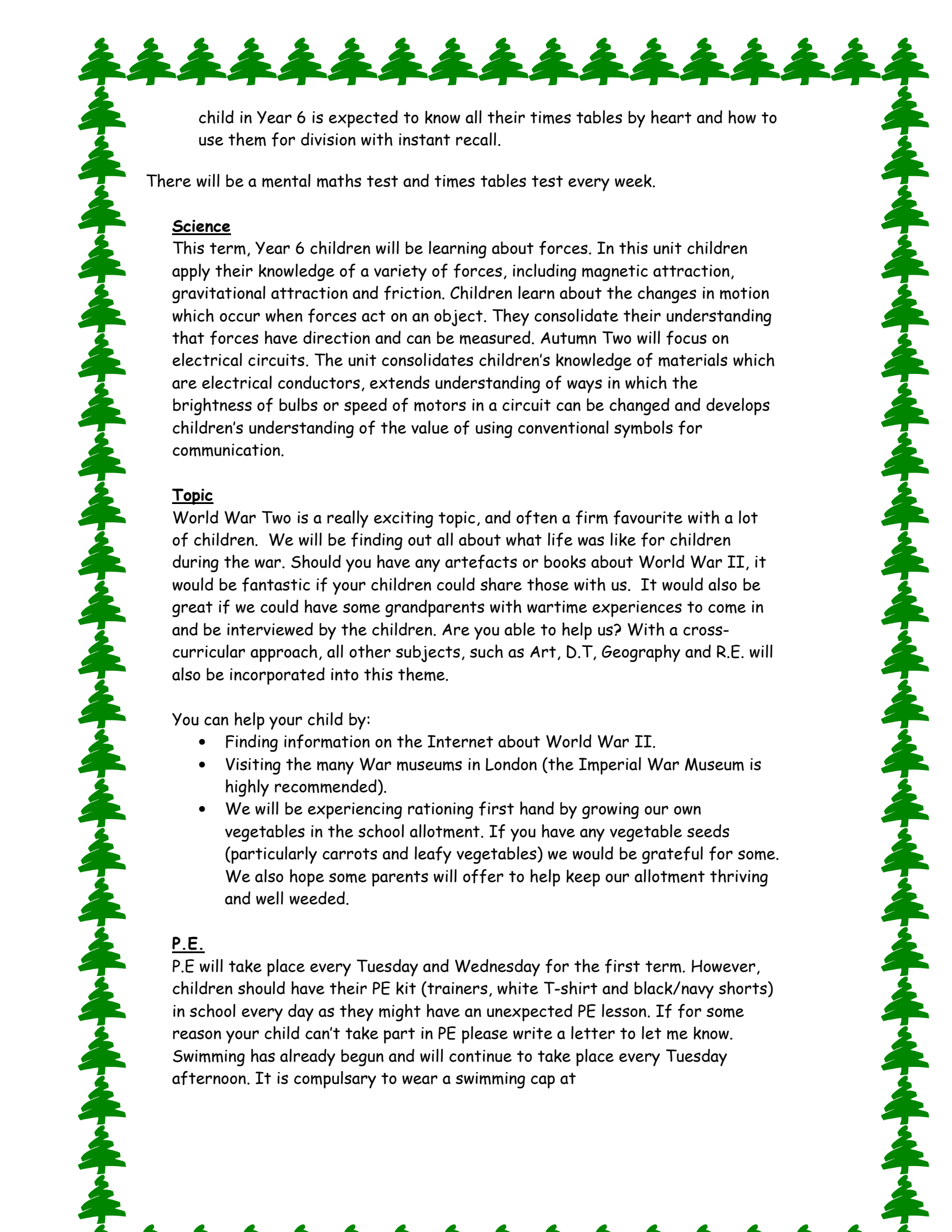
- Reminding your child about key punctuation, encouraging them to be as adventurous as possible.
- Checking common word spellings
- Participating in the child's daily reading routine. A visit to the local library or sharing a book would be highly beneficial.
- Assisting the children with their handwriting and presentation skills.

Numeracy

Our Autumn term begins with place value, focussing on multiplication and division by 10, 100 and 1000, including decimals. We shall further be revising addition, subtraction and division techniques, up to and including 7 digit numbers.

You can help by:

- Playing games that involve multiplying by 10,100, and 1000
- Using money in everyday contexts, including change
- Helping your child to improve the recall speed of their times tables. Every



child in Year 6 is expected to know all their times tables by heart and how to use them for division with instant recall.

There will be a mental maths test and times tables test every week.

Science

This term, Year 6 children will be learning about forces. In this unit children apply their knowledge of a variety of forces, including magnetic attraction, gravitational attraction and friction. Children learn about the changes in motion which occur when forces act on an object. They consolidate their understanding that forces have direction and can be measured. Autumn Two will focus on electrical circuits. The unit consolidates children's knowledge of materials which are electrical conductors, extends understanding of ways in which the brightness of bulbs or speed of motors in a circuit can be changed and develops children's understanding of the value of using conventional symbols for communication.

Topic

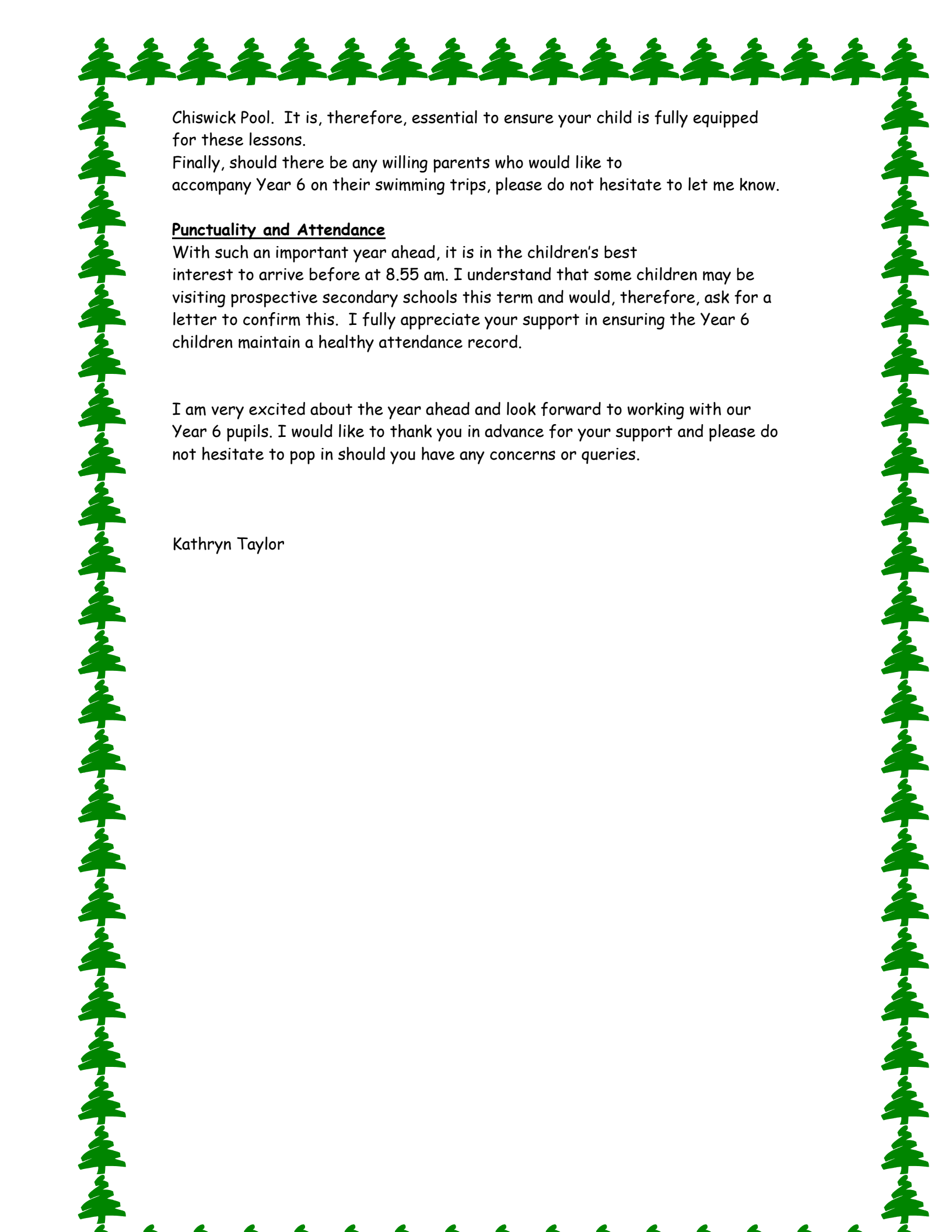
World War Two is a really exciting topic, and often a firm favourite with a lot of children. We will be finding out all about what life was like for children during the war. Should you have any artefacts or books about World War II, it would be fantastic if your children could share those with us. It would also be great if we could have some grandparents with wartime experiences to come in and be interviewed by the children. Are you able to help us? With a cross-curricular approach, all other subjects, such as Art, D.T, Geography and R.E. will also be incorporated into this theme.

You can help your child by:

- Finding information on the Internet about World War II.
- Visiting the many War museums in London (the Imperial War Museum is highly recommended).
- We will be experiencing rationing first hand by growing our own vegetables in the school allotment. If you have any vegetable seeds (particularly carrots and leafy vegetables) we would be grateful for some. We also hope some parents will offer to help keep our allotment thriving and well weeded.

P.E.

P.E will take place every Tuesday and Wednesday for the first term. However, children should have their PE kit (trainers, white T-shirt and black/navy shorts) in school every day as they might have an unexpected PE lesson. If for some reason your child can't take part in PE please write a letter to let me know. Swimming has already begun and will continue to take place every Tuesday afternoon. It is compulsory to wear a swimming cap at



Chiswick Pool. It is, therefore, essential to ensure your child is fully equipped for these lessons.
Finally, should there be any willing parents who would like to accompany Year 6 on their swimming trips, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Punctuality and Attendance

With such an important year ahead, it is in the children's best interest to arrive before at 8.55 am. I understand that some children may be visiting prospective secondary schools this term and would, therefore, ask for a letter to confirm this. I fully appreciate your support in ensuring the Year 6 children maintain a healthy attendance record.

I am very excited about the year ahead and look forward to working with our Year 6 pupils. I would like to thank you in advance for your support and please do not hesitate to pop in should you have any concerns or queries.

Kathryn Taylor