

7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to your child's final year at Simmondley School!

This year, your child will have daily English lessons with Mrs Collyer and daily maths lessons with Mrs Constantine.

Topics this term include: 'Coasts' in geography and 'Earth in Space' in science. We have arranged a trip to Jodrell Bank on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September – please see separate letter.

Your help in maintaining your child's reading record has been essential throughout the junior years. At this level, where most children have achieved reading fluency, it is important to develop children's understanding and appreciation of what they read. Discussing characters and events, suspense, action and the writers' styles is particularly helpful. In order to attain the 'expected level' for reading, the children must be able to make inferences about characters and situations, and questioning them about what they have read helps them "read between the lines" - this is especially valuable. It is really important they have reading stamina and can sustain their reading over longer periods of time. New vocabulary they meet needs to be recorded in their reading record book.

Additionally the following is for you and your child's information:

- **HOMEWORK**

Maths - Set on a Friday – to be handed in on Monday or Tuesday at the latest. Homework will be set from a workbook every week, just like last year. Please don't worry if your child is not working from the age appropriate work book - it is far more important that they gain confidence in what they do. (Multiplication and division facts are on-going and there will be weekly timed tests).

English – homework is also set on a Friday to be returned by Wednesday at the latest. Some weeks this will be a comprehension exercise from a work book and other weeks homework will involve writing sentences on a particular focus. Spellings are taken home on a Tuesday for a test the following Tuesday. We will continue to learn spelling rules and the Year5/6 words which children should use and spell correctly in their own work **most** of the time.

- **PE/GAMES**

PE lessons will be with sports coaches on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Most lessons will be outside, so an outdoor PE kit will be needed in school on both of these days. It is a good idea to leave an indoor PE kit in school as well, to be taken home at half-term.

- **SATs**

For your information SATs are during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> May2018

Thank you for continued support. If you have any concerns please ring or pop in to see me,

Kathy Collyer