Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 6! I hope you have had a fantastic summer. I am delighted to be taking this class through their final year at Dormansland and helping to prepare them for the next stage in their educational journey.

During the course of the year we aim to encourage the children to become more independent, taking on greater responsibility for their personal organisation and learning, in preparation for their transition to secondary school next year. As part of this, the children will have the opportunity to take on a range of roles across the school. Some of them have already been elected members of the Junior Leadership Team (HUGE congratulations to all those who were chosen). The children will also carry out some important tasks to help with the running of the school, raising their confidence and levels of independence. They will, as written on our webpage, have the chance to put themselves forward as a potential House Captain.

In regards to helping at home this year, as always reading needs to be supported and encouraged throughout Year 6 so please continue to encourage your child with reading at home every day. At their age and reading level, reading to an adult is not absolutely necessary. In fact some older readers positively hate it. They still benefit from an adult taking interest in their reading. Perhaps consider having a discussion about the book being read. We will also have regular discussions in reading groups about what they are reading. Bedtime stories do still have a place for older children and can greatly impact their development in both reading and writing. I am happy to provide a list of authors and book titles should you need inspiration!

On our class webpage is our terms Topic Web which shows the areas we are covering throughout the Autumn. We will be beginning the year with a topic entitled ‘Water, water everywhere’. This topic comprises learning about rivers and rainforests, with a short look at climate change.

PE this term is on a Wednesday. The whole afternoon will be given over to PE and it will be either indoor or outdoor PE, depending on weather conditions and other factors. As it gets colder later in the term, the children will need track suit/jogging bottoms in school. Please ensure all PE kit is named. It is important that trainers are separate to school shoes and girls who wear tights must have a pair of socks kept in their PE bag to wear with their trainers.

Many thanks for your continuing support, and if you have any further queries or questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Miss J Carter