

Testwood Year 6 Transition Bulletin



May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome again to you all to this month's Transition Bulletin.

This month I would like to share further information with you and signpost you to our website for key pieces of information that you may not already be aware of.

Our transition page is in the process of being updated for September's cohort. However, you can still find some useful information to help you and your child prepare for September. Please find the link to our Year 6 Transition page here:

<https://www.testwoodschool.co.uk/year-6-transition/>

The link below will take you to our school website:

<https://www.testwoodschool.co.uk/>

The Home, School Life and Parents sections should be utilised and used for any information not known as yet, such as in School Life you will find information on; equipment, school uniform expectations and the structure of the school day.

In the parents' section is also a guide to Accelerated Reader and how it is used within the school.

RENAISSANCE*

Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader

What is Renaissance Accelerated Reader (AR)?

AR is a reading program that helps teachers support and monitor children's reading practice. Your child picks a book at their own level and reads it at their own pace. When finished, your child takes a short online quiz to measure how much of the book they understood.



What is a Renaissance Star Reading test?

Star Reading is an online test used to measure your child's reading level. The test uses multiple-choice questions and takes around 20 minutes.

How do students select books?

AR includes over 30,000 books. These can be found in the school library as well as public libraries, books shops, homes, etc. Each book is assigned three scores to help your child make a suitable choice:

I am currently in the process of visiting our feeder schools, liaising with them as regards our groupings for tutor groups, awaiting relevant data on each child and putting together the programme for our Transition Days on 5th, 6th & 7th July. Over these three days there will be a range of subjects for all children to experience, and I will let you know more information in the next month's bulletin. Our aim is for your child to come away feeling as though they:

** know the layout of the school

** meet their tutor group

** have met some of the key members of staff who they will be working with on a daily basis.

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** know what a lesson will feel like. We will have taster sessions of some lessons to give your child a feel of what a secondary classroom looks like, how a session runs and how timings will work

** know what lunchtimes will feel like with an opportunity to appreciate and experience the canteen

After half term, several of our current students and I will be visiting the Year 6s in our local schools. This is an opportunity for your child to have really honest and open conversations about any concerns that they are having. These are often about really practical things like: where the toilets, who can I speak to if I'm worried, what happens if I get lost, how much homework will I get?!

School Uniform

Please see the link for our school uniform. <https://www.testwoodschool.co.uk/school-life/uniform/>

I am aware you may want to spread the cost of purchasing uniform over longer period of time. Therefore, please be aware only the tie and PE top require house colours. Your student's house will be shared with you after May half term.

Every other aspect of uniform is the same for every student.

Skoolkit

Please visit in store or <https://www.skoolkit.co.uk/school-uniform/17>

PE Kit/clothing for Testwood

The expectation is that all pupils will have a PE (House) shirt, black shorts, trainers (appropriate footwear-i.e. football boots for use on the field) for their lessons. From November-February half- term pupils are encouraged and should be either wearing the school PE fleece or a school games (rugby) shirt over their PE top. Black Testwood tracksuit bottoms (or plain black) are also allowed. More recently (base layers), training under garments can also be used (black) to keep warm and to ensure are pupils are looking part of a team.



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Dates for your Diaries

Thursday 22nd June- Year 6 Parents Induction Evening 6-7.30pm

Transition Days- Wednesday 5th July, Thursday 6th July and Friday 7th July

I would also take this opportunity to see if there are any children who perhaps need some form of extra transition period. This might be because they are the only child coming from their school or are feeling a bit wobbly or suffering with nerves or anxiety. Please let us know if there is anything which we can do to help ease the transition for your child.

I hope that this months' update has kept you in the loop and you are all looking forward to the Transition Days. If you have any concerns or questions, then please email me.

Thank you

Mr C Manning

Year 7 Leader 23-24

cmanning@testwoodschoool.co.uk