Homework:

Finally the thorny subject of homework. There will be information about this topic shared at the Parent Information Night. To give you clear guidelines a page with specific homework information will be handed out on the night. On average homework should take approximately 30 - 40 minutes per night.

General:

- The dates for camp this year are Wednesday 10 March to Friday 12 March. The cost for this will be $200.
- Thank you for the prompt payment of stationery money which has enabled the children to be organised and ready to tackle the challenges of the year.
- We would love to see as many parents as possible become involved with their child's education in Team 6 with Waterwise as one of the possibilities, as this programme is reliant on parent involvement. There are also opportunities to help within individual classrooms, with areas such as Art, so please feel free to approach your child's teacher with any offers!

Looking forward to meeting you all
Lynne Cutfield Karen Halkyard Madeleine Valintine

I have received and read the Team 6 newsletter.

Child's Name: _____

Parent Signature:_____

I / we will be attending the Parent Information Evening on Thursday 11 February. Yes / No

Team 6 Newsletter

Term 1 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Team 6 for 2010. It is great to see some 'old faces' with children now in Team 6 and a special welcome to those children and families new to Glamorgan School. This year our team consists of 3 rooms, under the guidance of the following enthusiastic teachers, who are looking forward to working with your children.

Room 8	Year 6	Mrs Madeleine Valintine	
Room 9	Year 6	Mrs Karen Halkyard	
Room 10	Year 6	Mrs Lynne Cutfield	Team Leader

Dates to Remember:

9 February	Waterwise begins
11 February	Parent Information evening
13 February	Netball Fun Day
23 February	Life Education caravan for 2 weeks
10 - 12 March	Camp
19 March	Big Day In
26 March	Team 6 leading assembly
29 March	Graham Braddock (artist) visit
31 March	Year 6 technology day

Parent Information Night:

Our first important date is Thursday 11 February, when a Parent Information Evening will be held to give you greater detail of what the year will hold for you and your children. It is highly recommended that you make every effort to attend this evening as information about the Waterwise programme, the camp in Rotorua, homework and general classroom programmes and expectations will be covered. The parents of all students will meet in the hall first and then Team 6 parents will move firstly to the staffroom and then on to the individual classroom teacher. We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. All parents are invited to the hall between 6.30 and 7.00. Year 6 parents will then head to the staffroom.

Waterwise:

Waterwise is a programme in which Year 6 children are taught the basics of how to sail. They will get experience in an Optimist yacht. Kayaking skills are also taught as part of this programme. The Year 6 children will be divided into 4 groups, with 2 groups at a time taking part in the on the water activities at Waiake Beach. The other 2 groups are based at school where they are given swimming practice, sailing theory and survival skills. The first group leave school at 8.30 am and depart the beach again at 11.00. The second group arrive at the beach at 11.00 and leave at 1.20 pm. These groups alternate each week. Waterwise runs for 8 weeks in Term 1 and 5 weeks in Term 4.

Waterwise will commence on Tuesday 9 February. As this is an important component of the Year 6 Education Outside of the Classroom programme, we expect all children to participate fully in the programme. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to train as Waterwise instructors. It is heartening to see this level of support. A letter has already come home requesting parent help. There are two ways in which you can help. Firstly help is needed between 8.15 and 9.00 to get the boats out of the shed and over to the beach, and again between 1.00 and 2.00 to help get the Optimists back in again. So even if you are unable to help for the whole day this may be one way to get your workout before heading off to work. Secondly we also require parents to help supervise children on the beach and in the patrol boats. No previous experience required!

In order to comply with regulations, we need a ratio of 1 adult to 4 children at all times. We look forward to seeing you down at Waiake.

Camp:

The highlight of Year 6 is undoubtedly the camp, which is almost upon us. We are leaving for Rotorua at 6.30 am on Wednesday 10 March and returning at approximately 5.00 pm on Friday 12 March. The cost for the camp is $200, and full payment for this is due on Friday 5 March. Arrangements can be made through the school office to pay this off in installments.

A gear list will come home in a couple of weeks time. Children have begun their camp preparations. Their camp groups and concert groups are organised and excitement is building.

Maths:

The national Maths Advanced Numeracy Project (A.N.P.) which was introduced in the Senior School in 2003 will continue to form the basis of the Maths programme with an emphasis in Term 1 on number knowledge especially in addition and subtraction. The Strand aspect will incorporate parts of Statistics and Measurement. Listening to, and testing your child's basic fact knowledge will assist them greatly with the classroom programme. At this level of the school it is important for the children to have both speed and accuracy when recalling their basic facts. To this end, basic fact learning will form part of their weekly homework.

Literacy:

The Literacy programme in all classes in the first three weeks is based around a shared book called 'The Silent One.' This will be followed by the individual room's guided reading programmes.

To assist your children with their reading skills a reading log will form part of their homework, where they are expected to read for at least 15 minutes on a nightly basis. This will help with their fluency and understanding. In Written Language the emphasis will be on the writing of personal experiences and narratives.

Topic Study / The Arts:

A Health unit entitled Our Voice is Powerful starts the year, to tie in with our school's Steps to Success. Throughout the year a range of higher order thinking skills will be woven through all of the Team 6 programmes and these will be introduced in context during our units of work. An integrated unit entitled 'Weather' will follow later in the term, encompassing work in Science and Technology. A Health unit will incorporate the Facing Challenges aspects of camp. A couple of visits to the Life Education caravan will be integrated into our Health programme also.

In the Visual Arts the first part of the term will be spent exploring self portraits. An added interest will be a visit by the artist Graham Braddock who will be demonstrating and teaching the skills of drawing.