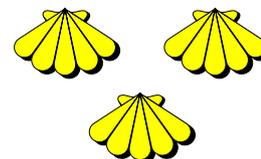


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



High Wych, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire. CM21 0JB

Telephone: (01279) 722109 Fax: (01279) 600396

E-mail: head@highwych.herts.sch.uk

admin@highwych.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

'This continues to be a Good School' Ofsted March 18

Autumn 2018 Newsletter

Blue Class

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 5 and another exciting term. I hope you had a great summer holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead. I am really looking forward to working with you and your children this year. Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

Reading is an important part of your child's learning. This year we will be reading and discussing texts as a whole class which will replace our usual guided reading sessions. This will expand pupil's vocabulary and deepen their understanding of texts through explicit whole class teaching daily. Children will still be expected to read good quality (age appropriate) texts **five days a week** and should record this in their reading record for the teacher to monitor. Please note that it is the number of days, not the number of times they have read. This includes books from home. It really does make a difference to your child's development. Please take the time to talk to your child about what they have read - comprehension is as important as identifying the words themselves. Those children that are reading 5 times a week will be rewarded with extra play on a Friday. Reading records will be checked every Friday.

In English we will be working to develop our skills in narrative writing, poetry and biography writing. Spelling, grammar and handwriting will also be taught on a regular basis. The children will continue with Big Writing in order to further develop their independent writing skills. In the first two weeks we will be completing activities linked to the anniversary of the ending of WW1 along with the rest of the school. As part of this we will be reading **Private Peaceful** by Michael Morpurgo. We have arranged a visit to Hertford Theatre to see the play on the 17th October - letters will be sent home nearer the time.

Spellings- Children will be given a spelling rule each week rather than a set of words to learn. The children will then need to find their own words, in a variety of multi-modal texts, where their spelling rule is applied. The children then need to record their words and complete a sentence for each word to ensure their understanding. The children will share these words in class and be involved in a deeper discussion that observes familiar patterns and rules within spellings. We feel this will benefit the children to understand and apply spelling rules or patterns to a variety of words and enhance their ability to spell unknown words through using this knowledge. The children will be tested fortnightly on the spelling rules. At the start of each year your child will be given a list of 'Common Exception Words'. These are a list of words provided by the National Curriculum that are an exception to the rules taught. Please could you help your children to gradually learn these spellings by having them displayed in your home and visiting them little and often. You can also access these words on your year group's homepage on the website. The class teacher will be testing the children on these words termly and discussing them in class to find ways to help them remember each spelling. Mnemonics such as '*big elephants can't always use small exits*' to learn how to spell 'because', are proven most effective in helping your child learn these words.



SCHOOL
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In Maths we will be looking at addition and subtraction in many forms and be describing and visualising 3D and 2D shapes. We will suggest suitable units and measuring equipment to estimate or measure length, mass and capacity. We will develop strategies to count on and back in repeated steps of different numbers. We will use all four operations to solve word problems involving money and measures. We will also be looking at multiplication, division, fractions, decimals and percentages. A rapid recall of times tables, up to 12 times 12 in any order is essential so please practise their times tables as much as possible.

We will begin with the unit 'Earth and Space' in Science. Within this unit we will look at the movement of the Earth in relation to the sun and other planets. We will be exploring the way in which the movement of the Earth determines day and night and the seasons.

In RE the children will begin to learn about Judaism and Christianity and how they are similar and different to each other. In the lead up to Christmas we will look in detail at the events surrounding the birth of Christ and the significance of Advent as time of preparation.

In Art we will be concentrating on the artist Pablo Picasso and 'Cubism'. We will have a close look at his life and various styles of his work.

In ICT the children will analyse and evaluate a range of digital films and animations, understanding how film and animation can be used to inform, persuade and entertain targeted audiences.

In Geography we will begin to develop a greater knowledge of North America using maps to focus on the key physical features and major cities.

Following on from the WW1 project our History topic will look at Ancient Egypt, concentrating on where and when this ancient civilisation first appeared and what their achievements were. We will have History off The Page visit us to enrich our learning during the term.

Mrs White will continue to work with the children every Wednesday with strings and the other part of the music lesson will be with Mrs Hundley where they will learn cyclic patterns (exploring rhythm and pulse) and work on their vocal skills. The children will also explore 'rounds' and songs related to Ancient Egypt.

In P.E. we will be developing our skills within dance and gymnastics. Please make sure that your child has the correct PE kit, royal blue T-shirt, navy shorts or skorts and plimsolls or trainers, all clearly labelled. As the weather becomes colder, you may wish to provide your child with jogging bottoms too.

We will be learning French each week using learning games, songs and drama to learn simple phrases and vocabulary as well investigating French culture.

Homework will continue this year and will be given out on a Friday and to be returned on Wednesday please. Projects will continue and they will be based on topics being studied. Further information nearer the time.

Please continue to provide your child with fresh fruit or vegetables for snack each day and they will also need a water bottle too please.

Attendance - It is essential that your child arrives to school in good time. Your child should be lined up at 8.50 when the school bell is rung. If they arrive after this time, they will need to go via the school office and will be marked as late. For a prompt start could all parents please leave the playground when the classes are lined up.

As always, if you ever have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me via the office to arrange a mutual time to meet. Please do not enter the classroom without an appointment as this can delay the start of the day.

I look forward to a great year with you all.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Collins
Class Teacher

