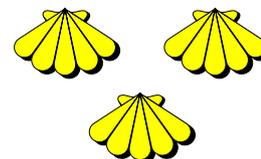


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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

Autumn Newsletter 2018

Green Class

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new another school year and I hope that the holiday was an enjoyable one. Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

In English, we will be working in blocks to develop our skills in writing narratives in the form of fables; recount and instructional writing. Children will get the chance to perform and write their own play scripts later on in the term. Alongside the writing focus we will also be enjoying our class book, 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King.

This year we will be reading and discussing texts as a whole class which will replace our usual guided reading sessions. This will expand the 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. Those children that are reading 5 times a week will be rewarded with extra play on a Friday.

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. 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. 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.



In Maths, we will be reading and writing whole numbers to at least 1000 in figures and words. We will develop strategies to count on and back in repeated steps. We will also deepen our knowledge on number patterns, comparing and ordering numbers and place value. We will develop our skills in the addition and subtraction of numbers using formal written methods as well as applying the calculation skills in problem solving. We will recall multiplication facts of at least the 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, and 10x tables.

In Science, we will be learning about rocks and soils. We will compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. The children will also get the chance to learn about different types of fossils and how they are formed. We will find out all about the life of Mary Anning and learn about how she discovered fossils. We will also study the topic, 'Animals including humans' to identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for protection and support.

Early on in the term we will be looking at the anniversary of the ending of WW1 and completing activities linked to this along with the rest of the school for a 2 week project. Following this in History, we will learn about the prehistoric era covering the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We will discover how the early humans lived. They will know where the Stone Age gets its name and which tools were crucial to the survival of early man. Later in the topic, children will get the chance to make their own Stone Age figures /pots. The children will also take part in a 'Stone Age Day' at Celtic Harmony Camp which is an excellent opportunity for the children to gain hands-on experience of hunters and gatherers.

In Computing children will (a) Plan and create an animation to convey an idea/message and (b) Create digital image/s to convey the same idea/message using Pivot animator. After completing the two projects children will compare both projects, considering how well each communicates the central idea/message. The children will also develop their skills in using different applications on the iPad.

In R.E. we will be studying Christianity and Islam; focusing on stories of authority, sources of wisdom and ways of describing God. Close to Christmas, we will also be looking at the Christian concepts of 'Incarnation'.

In P.E. we will be doing outdoor games which will be on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure that your child has a royal blue T-shirt, navy shorts/skorts and trainers, all clearly **labelled**. Please also ensure that your child has a black/blue tracksuit if it is slightly wet and cold.

In Music the children will be exploring rhythmic patterns with Mrs Hundley. Within French each week we will be using games, songs and drama to learn simple phrases and vocabulary and investigating French culture.

Spelling, English or Maths **home learning** will be given out on **Friday** and needs to be returned on the following **Wednesday** please. If your child is finding the home learning difficult please speak to me and I will go through it with them. I must stress also the need to practise times tables regularly. Children will have regular times table quizzes in class. By the end of the year the children need to recall quickly up to 12x12 in any order.

Please remind your child to bring in a water bottle with a **lift up lid**, as it is not always possible to go to the water fountain in school. Please remember that toys are not to be brought into the school. Please remember to provide your child with fresh fruit or vegetables for snack each day.

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.

If you need to discuss anything please contact the office to arrange a mutual time to meet. and I look forward to a great year with you all.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cox and Mrs Siggers

