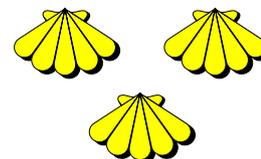


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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

Autumn 2018 Newsletter

Indigo Class

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope that you had a really enjoyable summer holiday. We are looking forward to watching all of the children in Year 6 progress and reach their full potential in their final year at High Wych School. We have a very busy year ahead of us but hopefully an enjoyable one too! Here is a brief outline of the main topics that we will be covering this term:

In English, we will be studying a variety of texts. In the few 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 this we have arranged a visit to Hertford Theatre to see the play **Private Peaceful** by Michael Morpurgo on the 17th October - letters will be sent home nearer the time. We will use a classic children's novel 'Goodnight Mister Tom' to study our next history topic-WWII looking at characters and settings as well as to give us an insight into life as an evacuee. We will link much of our work to our topic, covering skills such as biography and autobiography, letters, recounts and studying the text 'Rose Blanch' and 'The Arrival'. When they return from Kingswood, we will be focusing on recount writing.

Reading - 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. Those children that are reading 5 times a week will be rewarded with extra play on a Friday.

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 the 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



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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 this term, the children will continue to develop their knowledge of all areas of mathematics, using immediate assessment to highlight individual areas that need improvement. The children will have weekly mental maths lessons where they will learn to answer questions at a quicker pace and with more accuracy. They will work hard to develop their knowledge of the four operations, shape and space skills, number and place value, use various graphs to analyse and represent data and gain a better understanding of fractions and percentages. We will have regular problem solving sessions to challenge the class. We will also develop maths through 'Maths of the Day' to encourage active maths. Please access Mathletics at home to reinforce the different concepts.

In Science, we will be studying Evolution and Inheritance recognising that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. We will also look at how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

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 be studying life at home during World War 2. The children will learn how the lives of children and adults were different during the war, read a range of stories and analyse different sources to find real facts about that period. We have invited History off the Page to come into school on 15th October to lead a day of role play and interactive activities, where the children will be able to dress up and experience life as an evacuee. Details to follow.

In Geography the children will investigate the question: How will our world look in the future? Through first hand experiences they will study land use, coastal erosion and renewable energy.

In ICT we will begin the year by looking at eSafety and how to stay safe online. This will be followed by a unit based on Robotics and systems.

This term, PE lessons will be on **Wednesday and Thursday**. Please ensure the children have a fully named kit. They are able to wear plain, dark blue joggers and sweat shirts for the winter months. A plastic bag for muddy footwear is needed. All hair should be tied back and earrings taken out.

Homework will be set on a **Monday** to be handed in on **Friday**. They will have a piece of Maths and English each week or topic based homework. Year 6 children may also be given tasks set by the teacher on BUG club, Mathletics and iHub. Your child will also be tested fortnightly on the spelling rule given out at the beginning of the two week period.

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

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.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries.
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Moulsher
Class Teacher/Deputy Head

