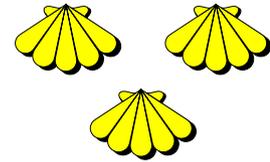


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



High Wych, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire. CM21 0JB

Telephone: (01279) 722109

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

admin@highwych.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment

Autumn Newsletter Year 6 - Indigo Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. My name is Mrs Gale and I will be your child's Year 6 teacher. Mrs Reid will be our class TA and working to support the learning of all pupils. I hope you had an enjoyable summer. Year 6 is an important and exciting year and we are very much looking forward to supporting your child.

Please see below a brief outline of the topics we will be covering this term. If you have any questions regarding the curriculum or would like any further details, please don't hesitate to contact me via the office.

In English we will be studying a number of different fiction genres, explanation texts and poetry. We will focus on using a range of ambitious vocabulary and literary devices to develop interesting and exciting narratives. In addition to our writing and grammar focus, we will be reading the classic text 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michael Morpurgo which will link closely to our History topic - the impact of war. Pupils will be reading in groups and discussing their opinions and views about the text they have been studying. We will be ensuring pupils are confident using a range of grammatical tools and will be tested weekly in spellings as well as practising neat, legible handwriting. Spellings to learn will be sent home weekly as part of homework-see below

In Mathematics, we will be recapping and developing pupils understanding of place value and applying this to a range of formal and mental arithmetic strategies. We will develop problem solving methods, approaching complex word problems involving all four operations as well as a knowledge of factors, multiples and prime numbers. We will be considering fractions in more detail and developing pupils' confidence in comparing, ordering, adding and subtracting fractions. In geometry, we will look at the properties of shapes, in particular investigating how to find the area of triangles and parallelograms. Pupils will be encouraged to confidently explain and give reasons for the mathematical methods they have applied using appropriate technical vocabulary. In preparation for SATs, we will practise a range of reasoning questions each week as well as developing confidence and fluency in arithmetic.

In Science we will be focusing on biology, investigating animals with a particular focus on humans in Autumn 1. We will look at a number of bodily systems including the circulatory system with an investigation into cardiovascular health. We will look in detail at the function of the heart and the composition of blood. Building on prior learning we will look at the impact of lifestyle on physical health and investigate how substances affect the human body. This knowledge will link to our investigation of human evolution in the summer term. Pupils will be encouraged to work scientifically throughout this unit of work and to think about how they could accurately test hypothesis they may develop.

In History we will be considering the impact of war. We shall be investigating how World War I and World War II affected the local community. Pupils will be encouraged to conclude which war they think had a greater impact giving in depth reasons and explanation for their conclusions. We will look at a range of



historic resources to investigate this and link our learning to current affairs by comparing the impact of ongoing global conflicts on communities.

Geography learning will focus on South America with an investigation into the Amazon. We will look at a number of human and physical aspects of this fascinating region and consider how life in the Amazon basin is changing. We will compare the significance of the Amazon river with other areas, building on prior learning.

In Religious Education we will be looking at the Christian concept of creation and thinking philosophically about whether creation and science are contradictory or complementary. We will be comparing ideas of creation from a number of monotheistic and polytheistic world views.

In Physical Education we will be developing skills and understanding the rules of playing netball. We will also be looking at health related exercise, linking to our scientific exploration of the impact of exercise on cardiovascular health. Please ensure that your child has a royal blue T-shirt, navy shorts and trainers, all clearly labelled. Please also ensure that your child has a blue tracksuit if it is slightly wet and cold. Please remove earrings and provide a named water bottle. Items of clothing are often lost or mislaid when changing for PE. We would therefore be grateful if you could regularly check all of your child's clothing (school uniform and PE items) to make sure their name is clearly marked.

In Computing we will be developing coding skills, looking at how to design and develop a program. This will involve skills in design, testing and debugging.

In Art we will be considering the work of painters including Hockney, William Morris and Vermeer. Pupils knowledge and understanding of Art developed in previous units will be critical in our consideration of photographic and artistic sources in History. In Design Technology we will be looking at food with a specific focus on menu design and development. This will link directly to Science, drawing on the impact of food types and substances on the human body.

In Music we will look at how melody and tempo can be used to create different moods, particularly the use of music to create a happy atmosphere. We will use Jazz to investigate improvisation and work on composition within this genre.

PSHE learning will focus on the theme of 'being me in my world'. We will also be looking at celebrating differences drawing on links from our topic in History. We will frequently be considering and discussing current affairs and considering what impact these events have on individuals, our community and local area.

In French we will revisit and develop essential verbs and grammar. We will develop knowledge of vocabulary relating to school life.

Homework will be sent home on Fridays and is due back the following Wednesday. The focus for homework will be a mathematics task, a spelling rule task and reading. The children may have additional homework to support their learning. Fluency in times tables is essential for accessing the Year 6 mathematics curriculum and additional tasks may be set to support this if necessary.

The Year 6 residential trip is taking place during the week of 20th September. Further information regarding this will be sent out shortly, but if there are any immediate questions or concerns please contact the office.

Please don't hesitate to contact me via the office if you have any questions. I very much look forward to meeting you and to working with your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Gale
Class Teacher

