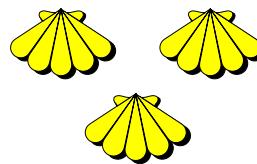


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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*Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment*

## Autumn Newsletter

### Year 1 - Orange Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good summer. I am really looking forward to working together with you to ensure your child enjoys their time in Orange class. We have had a great start so far and I have really enjoyed meeting your children. Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

In English we will be working on many different genres. To begin with we will be thinking about Labels, Lists and Captions. We will look at how to write simple recounts such as describing a trip they have made. We will be looking at some simple Poetry. The emphasis in Year 1 will be on reading and reciting poetry. Throughout the term we will also look at stories which have repeating phrases which will hopefully support some good writing opportunities. In their writing they will develop those skills they gained in Reception such as how to use capital letters and full stops. We will look at how develop their sentences more and begin to write some longer pieces linked to the stories we share.

In Maths we will be learning lots of new skills which build upon those they have experienced before. We will start with using positional language including ordinal numbers such as first and second. We will look at patterns in numbers such as doubles and halves, odd and even numbers. In addition and subtraction, we will look at the whole and part methods. Later in the term we will look at 2D and 3D shapes. We will mainly work with numbers to 20 but we will still learn about how to recognise numbers beyond this. More work will be done with these numbers later in the year. Number doubles such as 2+2 and 6+6 and knowing their number bonds are a key part to these early concepts. Please practise these at home as they will give your child an excellent foundation for all their Maths. Later in the year counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 will be explored which supports the schools focus on multiplication this year.

In other subjects such as Science we will look at Animals including discussing ourselves as humans. Throughout the term we will look at the four seasons and how they change with a focus on Autumn and Winter this term. Our Geography is linked to our Science and we will look at Animals around the World and their Habitats and will be learning about the continents. In History later on in the term we will look at family history, in particular what life was like when their grandparents were children. How has life changed since then? In RE we will look at both the Christian and Hindu religions. Learning about the different beliefs and practices as well as thinking about the different groups they belong to. We will discuss what things are important to them and any symbols related to these groups. We will be learning about the Christian concepts of God and Incarnation. In Personal, Social and Health Education we will looking how they fit in to the world in which they live and then celebrate the differences between people in their world. In Art we will be developing their skills linked with collage and drawing. We will look at producing some Autumn and Winter themed pieces. We will link in with our animal theme by looking at the work of Henri Rousseau who painted pictures with lots of animals and jungle themes.



In computing lessons, we will be using the Purple Mash computer scheme to learn about online safety and will be exploring various tools and programs to develop our skills and produce work. We will also be getting creative and looking at creating some artistic pictures using a paint package. We will use the computer suite and during this time, we will develop a variety of skills. We will work on improving our confidence when using the keyboard and mouse. We will also complete activities linked to our topic. In Design and Technology, we will be looking at food and will hopefully, be enjoying our annual visit from the Alpha Bake group who will be coming in to cook with the children. Obviously, this will depend on the current circumstances but more details will follow. As you can see, there is a lot to look forward to! They will be having a busy first term in Year 1.

**P.E. will be on Wednesday and Thursday** with myself and Mrs Clayden. Please ensure that your child has a royal blue T-shirt, plimsolls or trainers and navy shorts or a skort. As P.E. will be taking place outside your child will also need navy tracksuit bottoms to put on and a jumper or hoodie. **Please make sure your child's name is clear on all their clothing and footwear as they can frequently muddle their clothes.** If they wear earrings then if possible, can they be removed on these days. We really encourage lots of independence with changing for PE so lots of practise at home would be appreciated. Could you also make sure your child has spare clothes if they are likely to have an accident during the day. We do have some spare clothes. Finally, we ask that the children have a waterproof coat in school if rain is forecast, or if it is raining first thing, (and a heavier coat during winter months) so that we are able to go outside if it is drizzly. We will complete the 'Daily Mile' on most days to keep us fit with lots of exercise. We also have 'Wheelie Wednesdays' where the children are able to bring their scooters into school once they have completed their scooter training. More details about this including information about scooter training will follow.

Starting in a couple of weeks the children will have the opportunity to change their reading books during the week on a **Monday and Thursday**, providing the book has been read more than once, and an adult comment has been made in the reading record. Please remember that your child should be able to read fluently 95%-100% of the book. Home reading is an opportunity for your child to practise reading rather than you trying to teach them how to read. It is a chance for them to try adding expression. Remember to ask them questions about what they have read. It is fun to talk about the illustrations in detail and try to make up a new story. In class we will read books which are more challenging and support them in developing their reading skills. We would like the children to work on their reading books at home at least 5 times a week. Please remember to sign the reading record book each time. Children can also access books on Bug Club and these can be written in their reading record and count towards their count of 5 times a week. Those children reading 5 times or more a week will be rewarded with an extra 5 mins playtime on a Friday. They are all in house point teams now too so lots of rewards also available for great reading. We also hope to begin using the Library again soon and the children will be able to bring home Library books they have chosen to share with you. They are not linked to their reading ability and are for you to share together and for reading for pleasure. Please return these books each week or they will not be able to choose another one.

**Homework will be sent home on Fridays and will be due back the following Wednesday.** The focus for homework will be a Maths task linked to either the work we are doing in class, Number Bonds or counting in steps of 2,5, or 10; a spelling rule task (see below); and their reading. (See above) In addition, the children may be set half-termly projects which will be based on topics being studied at school. I will send home more information nearer the time. The children may have additional homework to support their learning if it is needed.

**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. 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.

Pneumonics 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 the morning free healthy snacks of fruit and vegetables will be provided by the school, so the children will not need to bring one in with them. Please supply your child with a named water bottle every day with a lift up lid not a screw cap and preferably one that does not leak. Please remind your child to take this bottle home each night to refill with fresh water. They have access to this all day in the classroom and are encouraged to drink it at playtimes and lunchtimes.

We have toys in school for your child to play with during playtimes and would ask that they do not bring in toys from home. This will avoid any upset if the toy is lost or broken. Any items the children bring in to show must be related to what we are learning in school or something they have achieved (e.g. swimming certificate). At present we are asking that only essential items such as coats, P.E. kits and reading books are brought in each day. Please do not send in bulky bags or other items.

#### **Start of the day**

It is essential that your child arrives to school in good time. Your child should be **lined up at 8.40** ready to be collected at the Church Gate entrance. **The gate will close at 8.50** so please do not arrive after this time otherwise they might get a late mark in the register. Parents are not allowed on the premises at present due to the current circumstances so please could all parents leave the gate area quickly after dropping off your child so as to leave space for others to arrive. This will enable the classes to be lined up so that we do not delay and so the school day can start promptly.

At the end of the day please collect your child promptly at 3.20 at the Church car park. **Please also let me know in advance if there are any changes to the usual collection arrangements for your child and give details of who will be collecting them.** This will avoid any delays and confusion at the end of the day.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk via the office. I will be on the playground most mornings for brief messages only or to arrange a time. If you would like to speak to me at the end of the day, please wait until all the children have been released.

I am looking forward to working together with you to make your child's time in Year One at High Wych a positive, happy experience.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Morgan**  
Class Teacher

