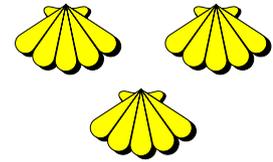


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

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

## Spring 2019 Newsletter

Year 5 - Blue Class

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to another exciting term. I hope you had a great Christmas holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead. Thank you for all your support and hard work with homework and reading.

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. Please continue to read with your child **at least 5 times each week** - 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. In school, the children will read twice a week with an adult through guided reading. During this time, they will work on various reading and comprehension skills.

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. Guided Reading sessions will continue each week, where the children will develop their reading and comprehension skills. The children will continue with Big Writing in order to further develop their independent writing skills. Early in the term we will be reading 'Oranges In No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird and using this story to further inspire and develop the children's writing. On the 4th February we will be going to the Festival of Literature at Bishop's Stortford College, more details to follow.

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 sound knowledge of times tables, up to and including times twelve, is essential and any opportunity for your child to practise their times tables will be of considerable benefit to them across a range of maths topics.

Our Science topic for the first part of the term will be 'All living things and their habitats'. The children will look at the life cycles of animals and plants and investigate the factors that affect seed germination, the mechanics of seed dispersal that different plants have evolved and comparing the life cycles of humans with those of other animals and mammals. Our focus will then be on 'Forces' where children will look at the effects



of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces. We also will be taking part in Science week during March and will have the opportunity to visit the Science Dome in school.

In RE the children will begin to learn about celebrations related to key figures within Judaism and Christianity such as Esther (the feast of Purim) and Moses (the Passover). In the lead up to Easter week we will look in detail at the events surrounding the death of Christ and the significance of Good Friday and the resurrection. We will take part in an RE day on 21<sup>st</sup> January on the topic of Respect and Resilience.

In Art we will be concentrating on creating sketches to record observations and in doing so help to revisit and review ideas. To link with our English topic we will be looking at the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. The children will create their own self portrait inspired by her work.

In ICT the children will develop greater understanding of data and databases. They will start to understand why and how large organisations collect data and recognise unacceptable behaviour on and off-line.

Our Geography work will be on South America and in particular the Amazon, before we move our focus onto locational knowledge with a particular emphasis on the Amazon rainforest and what it is like to live there.

In History we will continue to look at Ancient Egypt, concentrating on where and when this ancient civilisation first appeared and what their achievements were. We will then move onto learning about the Ancient Greeks.

In P.E. we will be developing our skills within gymnastics and netball. 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. Swimming will take place this half term.

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

Mrs White and Mrs Hundley will continue to work with the First Access Strings groups every Wednesday.

Homework will be given out on a Friday and needs to be returned on the following Wednesday please. Projects will continue this year and they will be based on topics being studied at school. I will give more information on these nearer the time.

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

As always, if you ever have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

I look forward to a great new term with you all.

**Mrs Collins**  
Class Teacher

