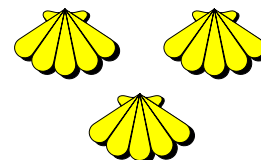


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

*Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment*

## Spring Newsletter

### Year 1 - Orange Class

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

In Science, the children will be investigating 'Everyday Materials'. We will look at both natural and manmade materials including wood, metal, plastic, glass, fabric, rock, and water. We will also be examining their different properties such as being waterproof, absorbent, transparent, rigid, elastic or flexible; and how this might affect the different uses. You may like to support this by exploring objects around your home and identifying their materials and properties. As usual throughout the term, we will continue to look at the four seasons and how they change.

In English, we will be working on many different genres. We will look at stories, which reflect children's own experiences. We will be expecting the children to write sentences independently which retell events based on personal experiences. We will also look at report writing and its structure as well as how to write instructions. There will also be lessons on poetry where the children will be reading, writing and reciting verses.

In Maths, the children will continue to practise counting with increasing fluency and accuracy, forwards and backwards from 0 to 100, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Please practise these at home, as they will give your child an excellent foundation for all their Maths. In Year 1, we will continue with addition and subtraction to 20 including looking at money. We will also look at odd and even numbers; basic shapes; measures using the language of length, height, mass and speed; as well as ordering the days of the week and months of the year, so please keep practising spelling and ordering these.

We will continue to use the computer suite once a week. During this time, we will develop a variety of skills: using the keyboard and mouse, logging into the computer, saving and locating work. This term we will be looking at algorithms, researching facts using the internet and looking at other ways we gather information as well as creating books. Using the computer with a mouse and keyboard at home would be supportive as well as practising logging into Bug Club, J2E and Purple Mash.

P.E. will be on Wednesday and Thursday. This term the children will be doing dance and ball skills.



Earrings need to be removed for P.E. at home unless the child can remove and put back in their own earrings. Please ensure that your child has a royal blue T-shirt, plimsolls or trainers, navy shorts or a skort and a navy tracksuit or jogging bottoms for outside PE sessions. **Please make sure your child's name is clear on all their clothing** as the children frequently muddle their clothes. We still have many items of unnamed clothing, including jumpers and cardigans. Finally, I ask that the children have a waterproof/warm coat in so that we are able to go outside if it is drizzly/cold.

In Geography, we will be looking at people and their communities and comparing different places around the world with our own. In History, we will be learning about Great Inventions and the history of the first flight. In Art and DT, we will be painting and constructing aeroplanes. In 'The Groove' music unit we will learn about different styles of music and will be exploring our Dreams and Goals in P.S.H.E.

In the morning, free healthy snacks are provided by the government, so the children will not need to bring one in with them. Please supply your child with a named water bottle each day. Please remind your child to take this bottle home each night to refill with fresh water.

Reading books will be changed twice a week, on Monday and Thursday, providing the book has been read more than once, and an adult comment has been made in the reading record. Home reading is a great opportunity for your child to practise reading; it is a chance for them to try adding expression and to discuss the book with you to ensure understanding in what they are reading. We would like the children to be reading 5 times a week. Please remember to sign the reading record book each time. Children can also access books on Bug Club and written in their reading record.

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 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 the year, your child was given a list of 'Common Exception Words'. These are a list of words provided by the National Curriculum that have an exception to the rules taught. Please could you help your child to gradually learn these spellings by having them displayed in your home and visiting them little and often. We will continue to test 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.

We would appreciate your co-operation in encouraging the children to become independent in their personal organisation as well as in their learning. The drop off and collection arrangements remain the same. Please remember to let me know in the morning (or the office) of any changes to the collection arrangements for your child. This will avoid any delays, as I am unable to release them without parental consent. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk. You can make an appointment via the office or wait until I have released all the children at the end of the day.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs Morgan**  
Class Teacher

