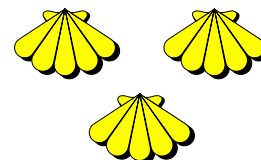


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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'This is a Good School' Ofsted Oct 13

Autumn newsletter 2016

Nursery - Rainbow class

Dear Parents/Carers

We are very pleased to welcome your children to Rainbow Class and hope that they will be very happy. This should be an exciting and special time for everyone, so please feel welcome to talk with a member of the time whilst your child is settling in.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is based around seven areas - Personal and Social Development - Physical Development - Communication - Literacy - Maths - Understanding the World - Expressive Arts and Design. The children's progress being recorded in a 'special book' called a Learning Journal. We photograph the children frequently often as part of a group, so your child's picture may be in another child's learning journal.

The first half term's theme is 'All about me.' This covers the child's likes and interests, the body and family and friends. Here we will address PSHE issues such as sharing and friendships. We very much lead from the children's interests and their curiosities in the Early Years, so for the second half term the children will be asked for their ideas and a new topic will be agreed.

For the first three weeks in Nursery we will be carrying out initial assessments so that we can get to know your child using lots of play, songs and 'challenges'. We will be screening your child for speech and language and for eye sight issues. We will contact you should your child need any extra support. We will be using lots of fine motor activities to develop and strengthen their pencil control. We will also introduce simple words and books, look at the letters and sounds in our names and have a go at writing our names.

After initial assessments we will be focusing on our core book 'What's in the Box' and then next half term 'Dear Zoo'. Every week your child will be sent a book home to share with you. Regular reading supports your child in many ways, including vocabulary and listening skills so please support us in sharing a book with your child daily.

From the start we encourage the children to attempt their own writing, gaining confidence in expressing themselves. There will be many opportunities through play activities and adult led sessions for them to practise writing and at all times the child's efforts are praised. Alongside these early attempts at writing we reinforce correct letter formation and pencil grip and we ask that you help us by ensuring these are also reinforced at home.



In Maths the children will be learning, recognising and using numbers to 10 and learning to count to 20 and beyond and backwards from 10. They will be involved in practical maths activities with adult support to help them to develop mathematical thinking and to solve simple mathematical problems. Together look for simple shapes 2D and 3D shapes around your home and when you are out. It is important that children understand the vocabulary we use - more than, less than, the same as, on top of, how many, behind, shape, space, count, number names and position etc.

We would appreciate it if all your child's belongings could be clearly named; this makes our lives easier, but also makes things much simpler for your child. Names are needed on clothes, PE kit, spare clothes, water bottles, wellies, lunch boxes and book bags - plus anything else you can think of!

Our PE days are currently on a Monday, children will be expected to dress and undress themselves, though we appreciate this is a learning process so support at home would be wonderful. No earrings and long hair to be tied back please. Activities will include climbing, throwing and travelling in different ways.

Please do not put the children's spare clothes into their PE bag as this is very confusing for them. A strong carrier bag is best for the spare clothes as rucksacks take up too much room on their pegs. Please encourage the children to try to hang up their own coats and put up their own names, so that they can be as independent as possible.

It helps the children to identify their book bag if a **key ring** of their choice is clipped on to the handle.

The children have a fruit snack each day provided by the Government - they will also have a carton of milk if you have signed the form requesting this. Water is vital to a child's wellbeing. We do not have easy access to drinking water in our classroom and we ask that children all bring in a named bottle of water each day.

Rainbow Class runs from 8.40am to 11.40pm. Please wait by the gate of our area at the beginning and end of the session. When you come into the classroom to collect your child they will all be sitting on the carpet and the teacher will call your child's name - they will soon learn that they must wait until they are called and this means that we know that they are safe with their grown up.

Nursery afternoons will start from 12th September and run throughout the term on a Monday and a Wednesday (except 14th and 21st December). This runs until 3.20pm so please bring a packed lunch and ensure that you pick up on time as it can be unsettling for your child if they are left until last.

May I inform you that the school is a mobile free zone so please respect this. Also the play equipment is not to be used before or after school for Health and Safety reasons. Thank you.

Hopefully this letter will contain much of the information you need. Mrs Glasgow and I are always available to answer questions, but if you want to have a longer chat just ask, so that a convenient time can be arranged.

Ms Kirk
Class Teacher

