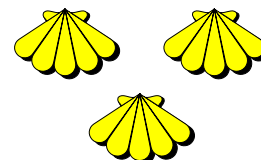


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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'This is a Good School' Ofsted Oct 13

Autumn newsletter 2016

Reception - Red class

Dear Parents

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

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is based around seven areas - Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Physical Development - Communication and language - Literacy - Mathematics - Understanding the World - Expressive Arts and Design. The children's progress is recorded in a 'special book' called a Learning Journal. We photograph the children frequently for their journals, very often as part of a group, so your child's picture may be in another child's learning journal and vice versa. We will be screening new children for speech and language and for eye sight issues. We will contact you should your child need any extra support

To begin the first half term of learning, the theme is 'All about me.' This starting point enables children to make links with learning immediately and areas covered will include; likes and interests, the body and family and friends. Here we will address PSHE issues such as sharing and friendships. For the second half term the theme will be 'Dark and Light'. Areas covered will include festivals - Bonfire night, Diwali, Hanukah, Christmas, diurnal and nocturnal animals and the season of Autumn. This will also include activities that we participate in during the day and night e.g. eating breakfast, having dinner.

We very much lead from the children's interests and their curiosities in the Early Years. If your child has something they wish to share they are welcome to bring it in (no more than one thing a week please). Homework is in the form of reading books and some simple activities connected to the High Frequency Words. Children are currently being assessed so we can begin reading books; please do read with your child daily it makes a huge difference.

Through early writing, we reinforce correct letter formation and pencil grip daily and we ask that you help us by ensuring these are also reinforced at home. Any writing your child does at home would be welcomed in school. Please encourage your children to have a go at writing their name/surname and simple CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words e.g. mum, dad, nan, cat, dog.

Your child will be sent a home reading book, which will be incorporated into the school's reading scheme. The children's books will be changed on a **Tuesday and a Friday**; they will read with an adult twice weekly. Regular reading supports your child in many ways, including vocabulary and listening skills so please support us in sharing a book with your child. Initially the books sent home will contain simple words and be very repetitive. At this stage the children will be making attempts to blend the sounds to make words. You should concentrate only on the simple "core" word/words that are repeated on each page. After several readings your child will probably remember these too. Ask your child to find the key words, cover up some of the words using post-its to make it fun.



'Bug club' will be set up next week for your child to access at home. This is a chance to read at home using I pads/computers which is very engaging. All the children have a username, which is red class, password h6wc. Please log on and you should have two books allocated. Once this initial book has been read I will then issue another based on your child's reading ability. www.activelearnprimary.co.uk



In Maths the children will be learning, recognising and using numbers to 20 and learning to count to 30 and beyond and backwards from 20. 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. Allow your child opportunities to become familiar with our UK coins. It is important that children understand the vocabulary we use - more than, less than, the same as, on top of, behind, how many, shape, space, count, number names and position etc. The children enjoy creating objects with your junk. We then transform this into wonderful 3D art. Please send in empty boxes, yogurt pots 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! 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.

Our PE days are currently on a **Tuesday and Friday**, 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. We will also have 10 sessions of Tumbletots starting on Friday 23rd September.

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.

Red Class runs from 8.40am to 3.20pm. Please wait by the Foundation Stage 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.

Our lending library will begin in a few weeks, the children will be able to select a book of their choice, this will change on a weekly basis and more information will be shared with you as soon as this is established.

Red Class attend assembly once a week on a Friday at the church, this is a celebration assembly where two children are chosen each week for various reasons to receive a certificate. Children can also bring in certificates from home eg swimming etc to share with the school.

Please be reminded 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.

All parents and friends are members of the PTA, who do so much to raise money for the school. We will let you know when the next meeting will be and you are very welcome to attend.

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

Thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you. On Thursday 29th September we would like you to arrive early (3pm) where your child will receive a special High Wych teddy to make them feel special and part of the school. We hope you can join us.

Mrs Khosla, Class Teacher

