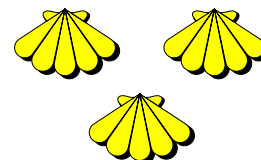


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

*'This is a Good School' Ofsted Oct 13*

## Summer Newsletter

Year R - Red Class

Dear Parents/carers

It was wonderful to see all the children enthused about our 'Mini beast and Arachnids' project as they returned to school with their fantastic work. The topic offers many opportunities to develop all seven areas of the curriculum. Some examples of our learning will include: going on a bug hunt; a butterfly kit to watch caterpillars develop into butterflies; creating a mini beasts role play to read and play in; developing and discovering the names of new arachnids and finding out that all the poisonous ones don't live in Britain. After half term our new topic will be on 'Weather'. The children will be involved in making weather charts, recreating rainbows using bubbles, creating a variety of music linked to rain and thunder and looking at clothing worn for the different weathers.

If you have any books, soft toys or objects relating to our topic we would be very grateful for them as the children always love sharing their objects from home.

Our emphasis on practical and play-based activities continues this term. The children are now familiar with the expectations of school and understand what is expected from them in terms of behaviour and 'work'. We will continue to help them to develop their independence, selecting their own materials and planning their own learning, as well as being responsible for their own belongings. As before, there will be a balance of directed and self-chosen activities, and initial topic work may evolve depending upon the children's particular interests.

Reading books will continue to be changed on a Tuesday and a Friday; please read with your child daily as it makes a huge difference. Regular reading supports your child in many ways, including increasing vocabulary and developing listening skills.

Reading and writing are modelled in the classroom both in adult led and play situations. 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. Alongside these attempts at writing we regularly reinforce correct letter formation and pencil grip and we ask that you help us by ensuring these are also reinforced at home. We encourage children to 'have a go' when writing words and help them to sound out words for themselves rather than tell them the correct spelling every time. At this stage it is important to instil confidence in their own abilities to write phonetically (as they learn their



sounds) and not to expect every word to be exactly right. We ask that you don't write in capital letters for your child to copy as this makes learning to write even more difficult.

In Maths the children will be continuing to learn, recognise and use numbers to 30 and learning to count to 40 and beyond and backwards from 20. They will be involved in using vocabulary around in addition and subtraction, 3D shapes, UK coins and everyday language related to time.

Please continue to access 'Bug club' at home. This is a chance to read at home using i-pads/computers and is very engaging. All the children have a username, which is red class, password h6wc Please log on and you should have a variety of books allocated. Once your child moves up a level, I will then issue another set of books on your child's new reading level. [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)



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 Tuesday, children will be expected to dress and undress themselves, although 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.

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.

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. If your child has done anything exciting out of school and wants to share their certificate, please bring it along on Fridays.

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.

Mrs Hills, Mrs Pegram, Mrs Mephram and I are always available to answer questions, but if you want to have a longer chat just ask, so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

Yours sincerely

**Ms Kirk**  
Red Class Teacher

