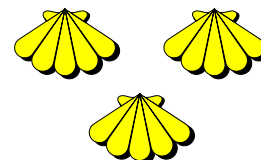


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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

Rainbow Class Newsletter Autumn 2019

Dear Parents

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 team 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 is 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. Future topics will be decided by the children and we will let you know about these as we go.

For the first few days we will be focusing on settling into our new class and introducing the children to new routines. The first half term's theme is 'All about me.' This covers areas including likes and interests, the body and family and friends. Here we will address PSHE issues such as sharing and friendships. Through this topic we will also target any areas the children need to develop as shown in their reports from their previous settings. It would be very helpful if you could provide us with a copy of your child's previous reports, if you have not already done so. We very much lead from the children's interests and their curiosities in the Early Years, so for the second half term I will ask the children for their ideas, through their ideas a topic is chosen. 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 a half term holiday activity and will contribute to your child's learning journey.

The Foundation Stage gate will be open at 8.40 am and the gate is closed at 8.50am. If you arrive after this time, then your child will need to be taken through the school office. Older siblings need to be left on the appropriate supervised playground. Please note that your child will be marked as late if they arrive after the school bell.



After our initial assessments we will be focusing on our core book, 'Dear Zoo'. Every week the children will bring home a book 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, this helps them to gain 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. 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 session will start as soon as the children are settled, they 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 self register, 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 (one only please).

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. So we ask you to bring in a named bottle of water each day.

May I inform you that the school is a mobile free zone so please respect this. In addition, the play equipment is not to be used before or after school for health and safety reasons. Thank you.

Ms Kirk

Rainbow Class Teacher

