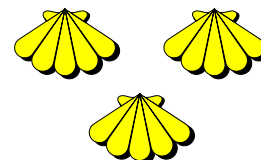


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



High Wych, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire. CM21 0JB

Telephone: (01279) 722109 Fax: (01279) 600396

**E-mail: [head@highwych.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@highwych.herts.sch.uk)**

**[admin@highwych.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highwych.herts.sch.uk)**

Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

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

## Autumn 2019 Newsletter

Year 4 - Violet Class

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another exciting school year. I hope you had a great summer holiday and are looking forward to the year ahead. I am looking forward to working together to ensure your child enjoys their time in Violet Class.

Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term:

In English we will be working to develop our skills in narrative writing with a focus on report writing. We will also be exploring free verse poetry with a focus on vocabulary. Later in the term, we will be reading traditional tales and developing our narrative writing skills through this. The children will continue with Big Writing in order to further develop their independent writing skills and be working towards their pen licence. 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 multi-modal 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 each year your child will be given a list of 'Common Exception Words'. These are a list of words provided by the National Curriculum that are an exception to the rules taught. Please could you help your children to gradually learn these spellings by having them displayed in your home and visiting them little and often. The class teacher will be testing the children on these words termly and discussing them in class to find ways to help them remember each spelling. Pneumonics 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 like the children to work on their reading books 5 times a week. Please remember to sign the reading record book each time. Children can also access books on Bug Club and these can be written in their reading record and count towards their count of 5 times a week. Those children reading 5 times or more a week will be rewarded with an extra 5 minutes playtime on a Friday. They are all in house point teams now too so lots of rewards are also available for great reading.

In Maths we will be looking at place value to order and compare numbers beyond 1000 and develop skills of rounding and estimation. We will also be looking at securing addition and subtraction fluency as well as using formal written methods. We will use all four operations to solve problems including measures and perimeter. We will suggest suitable units and measuring equipment to estimate or measure length, mass or capacity. There is also a focus on multiplication and division facts therefore a sound knowledge of times tables, up to



and including times twelve, is essential and any opportunity for your child to practise their times tables will be of considerable benefit to them across a range of maths topics.

We will begin with the unit of sound in Science. Within this unit, we will learn about how vibrations cause sounds and how they travel. We will also explore how sounds can change pitch and volume. The children will learn how sounds are made, carrying out a school sound survey. We will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best material for soundproofing.

In RE the children will begin to learn about Hinduism and Christianity and how they are similar and different to each other. In the lead up to Christmas we will look in detail at the events surrounding the birth of Christ and the significance of Advent as a time of preparation.

In Art we will be concentrating on developing our skills of printing and working with textiles. Our DT unit will be linked with our scientific knowledge of sound and we will be creating our own musical instrument.

We will use the ICT suite twice a week to continue developing our general computer skills. Our first unit will be focused on developing an understanding of simulations, which provide environments that mimic the real world. We will design an algorithm for an onscreen programming task, which includes repeat functions and procedures.

In Geography we will begin to develop a greater knowledge of America and will be focusing on improving our knowledge about the differences between continent, country and city.

Our History topic will look at the Ancient Egyptians. We will explore who the Ancient Egyptians were, what they did and discuss whether Ancient Egypt deserves its reputation as one of the most important early civilisations. We will be visiting the Hertford Theatre to watch "Awful Egyptians" which will help with our learning of the Egyptians, more information to follow.

In P.E. we will be developing our skills within Tri-Golf and problem solving games. Later in the term we will be developing our swimming skills, more information to follow. Please make sure that your child has the correct PE kit, royal blue T-shirt, navy shorts and plimsolls or trainers, all clearly labelled. As the weather becomes colder, you may wish to provide your child with jogging bottoms too. Please have hair tied back and earrings removed. Our P.E days will be on a Monday and Thursday afternoon.

In Music we will be exploring rhythmic patterns whilst also exploring songs and music. The children will also be exploring string instruments during our weekly music lessons.

French will be taught each week and our units for the Autumn term will include 'How to Present Myself' and 'The Family.'

Homework will be sent home on Fridays and due back the following Wednesday. The focus for homework will be a times tables task, a spelling rule task and reading. In addition, the children will be set half-termly projects, which will be based on topics being studied at school. I will give more information on these nearer the time. The children may have additional homework to support their learning.

Please continue to provide your child with fruit or vegetables for snack each day and they will also need a water bottle too please.

As always, if you ever have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a mutual time to meet.

I look forward to a great year with you all.

Miss Green, Class Teacher

