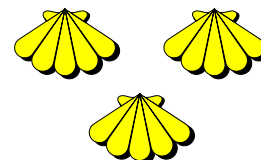


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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

## Autumn 2020 Newsletter

### Year 1 - Orange Class

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good summer. I am really looking forward to working together with you to ensure your child enjoys their time in Orange class. We have had a great start so far and I have really enjoyed meeting your children. Here is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

In English we will be working on many different genres. To begin with we will be thinking about Labels, Lists and Captions. We will look at how to write simple recounts such as describing a trip they have made. We will be looking at some simple Poetry. The emphasis in Year 1 will be on reading and reciting poetry. Throughout the term we will also look at stories which have repeating phrases which will hopefully support some good writing opportunities. In their writing they will develop those skills they gained in Reception such as how to use capital letters and full stops. We will look at how develop their sentences more and begin to write some longer pieces linked to the stories we share.

In Maths we will be learning lots of new skills which build upon those they have experienced before. We will start with using positional language including ordinal numbers such as first and second. We will look at patterns in numbers such as doubles and halves, odd and even numbers. In addition and subtraction, we will look at the whole and part methods. Later in the term we will look at 2D and 3D shapes. We will mainly work with numbers to 20 but we will still learn about how to recognising numbers beyond this. More work will be done with these numbers later in the year. Number doubles such as 2+2 and 6+6 and knowing their number bonds are a key part to these early concepts. Please practise these at home as they will give your child an excellent foundation for all their Maths. Later in the year counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 will be explored which supports the schools focus on multiplication this year.

In Science we will look at Animals and including discussing ourselves as humans. Throughout the term we will look at the four seasons and how they change with a focus on Autumn and Winter this term.

In Geography we will look at Our Local Area and what it is like where we live.

In History later on in the term we will look at family history, in particular what life was like when their grandparents were children. How has life changed since then?

In RE we will look at both the Christian and Hindu religions. Learning about the different beliefs and practices as well as thinking about the different groups they belong to. We will discuss what things are important to them and any symbols related to these groups.



In Personal, Social and Health Education we will look how they fit in to the world in which they live and then celebrate the differences between people in their world.

In Art we will be developing their skills linked with collage and drawing. We will look at producing some Autumn and Winter themed pieces. We will link in with our animal theme by looking at the work of Henri Rousseau who painted pictures with lots of animals and jungle themes.

In Computing lessons we will be getting creative and looking at creating some artistic pictures using a paint package. We will use the computer suite and during this time, we will develop a variety of skills. We will work on improving our confidence when using the keyboard and mouse. We will also complete activities linked to our topic.

In Design and Technology, we will be looking at food

**P.E. will be on Tuesday and Wednesday.** Please ensure that your child has a royal blue T-shirt, plimsolls or trainers and navy shorts or a skort. As P.E. will now be taking place **outside** your child will also need black or navy **tracksuit bottoms** to put on. Please make sure your child's name is clear on all their clothing as they can frequently muddle their clothes. Please remove earrings on these days. We really encourage lots of independence with changing for PE so lots of practise at home would be appreciated. Finally, we ask that the children have a waterproof coat in school if rain is forecast, or if it is raining first thing, (and a heavier coat during winter months) so that we are able to go outside if it is drizzly. We will complete the 'Daily Mile' on most days to keep us fit with lots of exercise.

As you can see there is a lot to look forward to! They will be having a busy first term in Year 1.

Starting in a couple of weeks the children will have the opportunity to change their reading books providing the book has been read more than once, and a parent comment has been made in the reading record. Please remember that your child should be able to read fluently 95%-100% of the book. Home reading is an opportunity for your child to practise reading rather than you trying to teach them how to read. It is a chance for them to try adding expression. Remember to ask them questions about what they have read. It is fun to talk about the illustrations in detail and try to make up a new story. In class we will read books which are more challenging and support them in developing their reading skills. We would like the children to work on their reading books 5 times a week at home. 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 5 times a week. Those children reading 5 times or more a week will be rewarded with an extra 5 mins playtime on a Friday. They are all in house teams now too so lots of rewards also available for great reading.

Following the guidance given to schools, we are making a few changes to the way we manage home reading this term. **Books will be sent home on a Monday** and need to be **returned to school on Thursday** to ensure they are safe to reallocate to other children. All children have access to books online through the Bug Club reading App so please make use of this over the weekends. Log on details can be obtained from your child's class teacher if necessary. Reading is an essential tool for learning and we strongly promote reading every day for around 10 minutes. Please ensure that your child reads every day and that **you record** this in their reading record - whether it is a physical book or one from their bug club selection. At the moment it is not possible for staff to comment personally in reading records, but please be assured that they are checked weekly and children are spoken to about their progress.

**Homework will be sent home on Fridays and will be due back the following Wednesday.** The focus for homework will be a Maths task linked to either the work we are doing in class, Number Bonds or counting in steps of 2,5, or 10; a spelling rule task (see below); and their reading.

**Spellings** 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. Mnemonics 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.

Healthy snacks of fruit and vegetables will be provided by the Government, so the children will not need to bring one in with them. Please also supply your child with a named water bottle every day with a lift up lid. Please remind your child to take this bottle home each night to refill with fresh water. They have access to this all day in the classroom and are encouraged to drink it at playtimes and lunchtimes.

We have toys in school for your child to play with during playtimes and would ask that they do not bring in toys from home. At present we are asking that only essential items such as coats, P.E. kits, water bottles, lunch boxes and reading books are brought in each day. They do not need bulky bags or other items.

### **Start of the day**

It is essential that your child arrives to school in good time. Your child should be lined up at 8.45 ready to be collected at the Church Gate entrance. If you arrive after this time and the gate is closed, then your child will need to be taken to the school office at the front of school. Parents are not allowed on the premises at present due to the current circumstances so please could all parents leave the gate area quickly after dropping off your child so as to safeguard social distancing rules and leave space for others to arrive. This will enable the classes to be lined up so that we do not delay other classes needing to arrive and so the school day can start promptly. Please note that your child will be marked as late if they arrive after this time.

Please also let me know in advance if there are any changes to the usual collection arrangements for your child and give details of who will be collecting them. This will avoid any delays and confusion at the end of the day.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk via telephone. I will be at the gate most mornings where we can arrange a time, if not, you can make a telephone appointment through the office. If you would like to speak to me at the end of the day please wait until all the children have been released.

I am looking forward to working together with you to make your son or daughter's time in Year one at High Wych a positive, happy experience.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Morgan**  
Class Teacher

