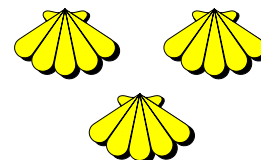


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

*Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment*

## Autumn Newsletter

Year 1 - Orange Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! I am very excited to be working with you and your children this year and Mrs Rogerson is delighted to support them in their transition to Key Stage 1. This is a big change for the children as they will be moving from a largely play based curriculum to a slightly more formal way of learning. Part of our work this half term will be to guide them through these changes by ensuring a lot of the learning is practical based. They will also be given opportunities to play during class time, but less frequently and for much shorter periods of time.

In Key Stage 1 the children will be learning the same curriculum areas as the rest of the school. Below is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering in each subject this term.

**Phonics** -We will be continuing to follow the Little Wandle Phonics scheme that your child started in Reception class. Initially we will be recapping previous learning to ensure the children can recall what they have already learnt before moving on to alternative ways of representing the sounds they know. In addition, the children will continue to develop their ability to read tricky words by sight and will apply all these skills to increasing more complex reading and writing tasks. Information on our phonics scheme and some support materials are available on the school website.

**Reading**-As with phonics, our reading follows the Little Wandle phonics scheme. The children will read to an adult in school three times a week in small groups focusing on the skills of decoding, prosody and comprehension. This book will then be sent home for your child to practise with you. Please be aware that your child should be able to read the text with confidence and expression at this point. Each book contains guidance on the front inside cover for supporting reading at home. Reading is an imperative part of your child's learning. The ability to read has a direct impact upon **all** other areas of the curriculum so please take the time to hear your child read for a short time each day. In addition, your child will bring home a book from our school library for you to read to them. Bedtime/shared stories are still a vital part of your child's reading journey so please make time for them each day.

**Writing**-During English, we will be focussing initially on lists, labels and captions through which we will develop phonic skills for writing and the formation of complete sentences. We will use a range of texts for this, and learning will be largely linked to other curriculum areas, in particular Science. Our narrative unit focuses on stories with predictable phrasing which will further support the children in forming sentences, combining ideas using 'and' as well as using the correct punctuation to start and end them. In Poetry we will explore rhyme and rhyming couplets and learn the skills of performance poetry.



**Maths**-In Maths this term our focus is on number and place value. Our initial learning will focus on revisiting the numbers to 10 to secure our understanding of a range of mathematical language including matching, sharing, comparing and ordering. We will then move on to simple addition and subtraction (again within 10) and finally on to explore shape.

**Science** - In Science we will be learning about plants, including trees. We will learn to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. The children will identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. Our next topic will focus on Animals, including humans. The children will explore, identify and compare a range of common animals including fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds. They will learn about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. When learning about the human body, children will label body parts and explore the five senses.

**RE**- In RE we will be looking at Christianity and answering two questions 'Why is belonging to God and the family important to Christians?' and 'Why did Jesus teach about God in his parables?'. Alongside these we will look at the school values and see how they are the building blocks to become effective learners at school. We will focus on one value a month, please see the school website for ways to support this at home.

**History/Geography** -Our first unit of learning will be Geography. The children will explore the countries and capital cities of the UK as well as continents, oceans and seas. As well as naming the countries and capitals of the UK, the children will explore some of the features of these countries and learn about the seas that surround them. They will also learn about the seven continents of the world and the five oceans. After half term we will focus on History, thinking about changes within living memory. The children will begin to develop a sense of changes over time by learning about chronology. They will start by considering changes that have happened to them and move on to explore changes in the locality, such as shops.

**Computing**-We use a scheme at school called 'Purple Mash' which has been developed to introduce the children to many different programs in a simplified way. We begin the year with some internet safety and then move onto exploring pictograms and Lego builders. Each year skills will build upon ones developed the previous year.

**Art/DT** - Our first unit will be DT where we will explore structures, in particular windmills which links nicely with the scarecrow festival here in High Wych. As well as exploring the features of a windmill, the children will also explore the skills of design and will think about who they are building/creating their models for. In Art we will be exploring painting and mixed media. We will revisit primary colours and explore secondary colours, including making various shades of the same colour.

**PE** -Our PE days will be a Tuesday and a Friday. Please ensure your child has plain dark blue jogging bottoms and/or a plain dark blue sweatshirt to wear this term as they will be working outside as much as possible. For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and earrings removed. Items of clothing are often lost or mislaid when changing for PE. We would therefore be grateful if you could regularly check all your child's clothing (school uniform and PE items) to make sure their name is clearly marked.

**Homework**- Homework will be set on a Friday and collected in on a Wednesday. It may consist of maths, topic or English learning. It is expected that all children complete the homework, or they will be given support by an adult during their play times. If a child is struggling with homework, please feel free to contact us before the Wednesday so that the appropriate support can be given.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns. The end of the day is usually the best time but please be aware that an appointment through the office may be necessary for longer issues.

Just a reminder that we have a meet the teacher meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45 should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Monk  
Class teacher

