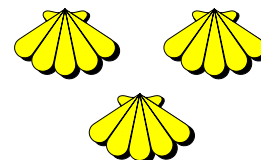


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment

Autumn Newsletter

Year 2 - Yellow Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 2! We are very excited to be working with you and your children this year. Below is a brief outline of the main topics we will be covering this term.

Reading-Reading is an imperative part of your child's learning. The ability to read has a direct impact upon **all** the other areas of the curriculum. Therefore, it is essential that your child is reading at home to you or another adult for at least 10 minutes **every day**. As well as listening to the accuracy of decoding the words, please ask your child questions about what they are reading, this will increase their level of comprehension. Reading is a complete process of decoding along with understanding. Some helpful question starters can be 'Who? Where? How? What?' And in particular 'Why?'. 'Why?' challenges their level of inference and assesses if they understand the characters and plot.

Reading a more challenging text to your child is also important as this exposes them to a wider range of vocabulary useful for language development and their writing. In school, the children will read twice a week with an adult through guided reading. During this time they will work on various decoding, comprehension and inferential skills. Any child reading 5 or more days a week- recorded in reading diaries- will receive extra play.

Writing-During English, we will be focussing on alternative versions of traditional tales. We will be sharing a variety of these twisted texts identifying similarities, differences and preferences when compared to traditional fairy tales. We will begin to explore a variety of writing tasks such as creating character descriptions and writing newspaper reports. The children will engage in role play enjoying acting out the different characters and stories from the tales. Throughout, we will be focussing on adjectives, capital letters and full stops, exclamation and question marks as well as composing coherent, sequences of writing. The children will continue to develop their knowledge and awareness of phonics and will move on to learning about spelling rules and patterns.

Maths-In Maths the children will develop their number skills through a variety of activities including using a place value, partitioning numbers to 100 and estimating numbers on a number line. They will use mathematical language such as more, less, greater and smaller than when talking about numbers and explaining their work. The children will be encouraged to recall number bonds quickly and apply this knowledge when working with larger numbers. The children will be developing their understanding of number and number patterns through a variety of written and practical work. They will move on to applying this to addition and subtraction tasks. Alongside this the children will continue to develop their mental maths skills, looking for quicker and more effective ways to solve questions in their head. It would be helpful to practise times tables with your children at home. We will be working on 2,5, and 10 times tables and learning strategies to aid finding the answer.



Science-In Science we will be learning about animals including humans. The children will use our school trip to Colchester Zoo to ignite their interest in animals and how they live and survive. In class we will explore different living things and learn more about their offspring, habitats, environment and food cycles. Through simple investigations they will develop their scientific skills - make predictions, follow instructions and analyse and discuss what they have learnt. We will learn how to investigate questions and how to record findings.

RE- In RE we will be looking at Christianity and answering two questions 'What do Christians believe God is like?' continuing the work they explored in Year One. To finish the term we will look at 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' 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- We will be following a scheme called Cusp History. The children will be learning about events beyond living memory with a focusing on The Great Fire of London. The children will learn about when was The Great Fire of London, how did the fire start and why it spread so quickly. The children will gain a better understanding of the effect of the fire on London and will use different sources to find out information.

Geography- We will be following a scheme called Cusp Geography. The children will be conducting a comparison study of locality and a non-European location. The children will look at and compare a small part of the UK with Nairobi. The comparison will include learning about the physical and human features of both locations and identifying similarities and differences.

Computing- We use '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 programming activities, then move onto looking at how to create pictures. Each year skills will build upon ones developed the previous year.

Art- Art we will be working on a scheme called 'Kapow'. Our first unit is 'Drawing: Tell a Story'. The children will be focussing on pattern, texture and tone. The children will investigate a range of materials containing patterns and explore how to recreate this using a range of media, experimenting with techniques and skills.

PSHE- We will cover two areas this term, the first being 'Being me in my world' a lovely time for the children to look at themselves and how they work with others including the responsibility they have to each other to make school a good environment for all. We will then look at 'Celebrating Difference' where the children will learn how we can all be the same but also how it is also good to be different to each other.

PE- P.E will be on Mondays and Wednesdays this term, however please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit in school every day. The children will go outside whenever possible for PE so it would be advisable to ensure your child has plain dark blue jogging bottoms and/or a plain dark blue sweatshirt to wear. For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and earrings removed. Please make sure their name is clearly marked.

Homework- Homework will be set on a Friday and collected in on a Wednesday. It will consist of maths, topic or English learning and include their spelling rule. 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.

Spellings- We will be focussing on letter strings and patterns. In addition to this, we will continue to work on reinforcing and applying the phonic knowledge the children have acquired over the past two years.

Your child will be given a list of 'Common Exception Words'. Please could you help your children to gradually learn these spellings by having them displayed in your home and visiting them little and often.

Please feel free to contact us 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 Thursday 14th September at 2.45 should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Giblin and Mrs K Warick-Baker Class Teachers

