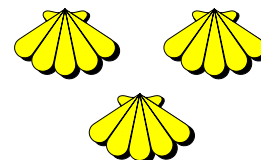


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment

Spring Newsletter

Year 1 - Orange Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas and wish you all a very Happy New Year. The children have adapted well to the new way of learning in Year 1 and I am very proud of their achievements so far. Here is an outline of the learning that will be taking place this term.

Phonics - We will continue to follow the Little Wandle Phonics scheme and the focus is now on alternative ways of making sounds that they already know. The children also will begin to look at pseudo words. These are nonsense words that can be made by using the graphemes they have learnt and helps to ensure that the children have a secure understanding of the sounds. Information on our phonics scheme and some support materials are available on the school website.

Reading - The children will continue to read to an adult in school three times a week in small groups focusing on the skills of decoding, prosody and comprehension. Please remember that 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. It is essential that children change their books each week. Please ensure that all books and reading records are returned on Fridays to assist with this.

Writing - This term we will continue to develop our sentence writing skills. We will reinforce the use of capital letters, full stops and finger spaces when writing our sentences and will begin to look at using question marks and exclamation marks. The children will be introduced to prefixes and suffixes and will explore using 'un', 'ing' and 'ed' in their reading and writing. They will also look at plurals by adding 's' and 'es'.

Maths - In Maths this term our focus for number and place value extends to 20 initially, and then to 50. We will continue to develop skills in simple addition and subtraction and also explore the areas of length, weight, mass and volume.

Science - In Science we will begin by learning about everyday materials. We will learn to distinguish between a material and an object and will name some common materials. We will explore the properties of materials and organise and group them by these. Our next topic will focus on the weather and seasons. The children will explore, identify and compare the changes that occur over the four seasons. They will learn about how the weather changes and about the changes in the length of the day.



RE- In RE we will be looking at Judaism and considering why doing good deeds is such an important thing to Jewish people. We will then move on to explore the Christian faith further by answering the question, 'Why do Christians pray to God?'. Alongside these we will continue 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 this term will be Geography. The children will explore the topic of 'Hot and Cold'. This unit focuses on human and physical geography. The children will look at weather patterns at home in the UK and compare these to other places in the world including the North and South poles. After half term we will focus on History, thinking about the lives of some significant individuals who have contributed to National achievements. Our focus will be on Richard Attenborough and Mary Anning.

Computing- Following our 'Purple Mash' scheme the children will begin the term by exploring 'Animated Stories'. They will then move on to explore simple spreadsheets. Throughout the term they will continue to revisit internet safety procedures. Each year skills will build upon ones developed the previous year.

Art/DT - Our first unit this term will be DT where we will explore moving storybooks. The children will learn about slider mechanisms and how these can be used to create moving pictures. They will then apply these skills when designing and making their own simple moving book. In Art we will be developing our skills of drawing. The children will explore line in some detail, exploring how we can make lines and the different effects we can create. They will then use lines to begin to show texture in their drawings.

Music - Our unit for music this term will be 'In the Groove'. We will be looking at music in different styles.

PE - Our PE days will now be on a Monday and a Friday. Please ensure your child has plain dark blue jogging bottoms, a plain dark blue sweatshirt and trainers in the PE kit 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 make sure all items of kit and uniform are clearly marked so we can ensure they are returned to you.

Homework - Homework will continue to be set on a Friday through J2E. Homework is due in on Wednesday. It is essential that homework is in promptly to ensure it can be marked before being returned on Friday. The homework set will be an extension to the learning in class or in preparation for upcoming learning. The expectation is that all children complete the homework. Those children not returning homework will be given support by an adult during 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.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Monk
Orange Class teacher

