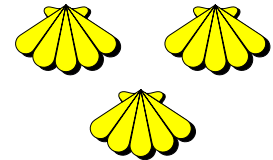


High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment

Spring Newsletter

Nursery - Rainbow Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all managed to have an enjoyable break.

Our emphasis on practical and play-based activities continues this term. The children are now familiar with the expectations of school and understand what is expected from them in terms of behaviour and 'work'. We will continue to help them to develop their independence, selecting their own materials and planning their own learning, as well as being responsible for their own belongings. As before, there will be a balance of directed and self-chosen activities, and initial topic work may evolve depending upon the children's interests.

The children will continue to bring books home to share with you. Please help them to talk about the pictures and enjoy telling stories. Children who read little and often are those who make best progress. We aim to change books regularly in school, usually on a Monday and Wednesday. If they have 'read' a book, ask them to choose a favourite picture to talk about eg - *Why is it a good picture etc. What do you think happens after this story has finished? Can you tell me about the different characters in the book?* Children should also hear and share other favourite stories and rhymes regularly. It is important to model language in all its forms so that they can at first absorb it and subsequently use it.

We will continue to encourage the children to attempt their own writing, gaining confidence in expressing themselves. There will be many opportunities, through play activities and adult led sessions, for them to practise writing their names and, later on, members of their family; at all times the child's efforts are praised. Alongside these early attempts at writing we reinforce correct letter formation and pencil grip and we ask that you help us by ensuring these are also reinforced at home. We ask that you don't write in capital letters for your child to copy as this makes learning to write even more difficult.

This term in phonics we will be introducing the children to the letter sounds in a variety of different ways. If you are not sure about correct formation or pronunciation (t not tuh, ss not suh) please come and ask.

Maths work is of a practical nature as children need to have experienced mathematics in a practical way before formal recording. This area of learning is not about writing or doing 'sums'.

The children will be learning to recognise and use numbers to 10 and learning to count to 20 and beyond and backwards from 10. They will play lots of games and be involved in practical maths activities with adult support to help them to develop mathematical thinking and to solve simple mathematical problems. It is important that children understand the vocabulary we use - more than, less than, the same as, on top of, how many, behind, shape, space, count, number names and position etc. At home you could point out numbers in the



environment, count stairs, toys, pennies, doors, flowers etc. Play counting games such as snakes and ladders, shops, lotto.

Please can you make sure that all your child's belongings are clearly named; this makes our lives easier, but also makes things much simpler for your child. Names are needed on clothes, PE kit, spare clothes, water bottles, wellies, lunch boxes and book bags - plus anything else you can think of!

As much as we have encouraged key rings on book bags, it does cause some distraction during the story time at the end of the day, so we are asking you to please choose just one key ring with your child to be attached to their book bag.

Our PE sessions will be on a Monday and Wednesday. Thank you once again for supporting us this with this learning process. Please remember no earrings and long hair should always be tied back.

Please do not put the children's spare clothes into their PE bag as this can be very confusing for them. A strong carrier bag (clearly labelled) is best for the spare clothes as rucksacks take up too much room on their pegs. Please continue to encourage your children to be as independent as possible by putting their own coats, hats and gloves on.

The children have a fruit snack each day provided by the Government - you can also order milk for them. Water is vital to a child's wellbeing. We ask that children all bring in a named bottle of water each day. Water bottles should contain water only for throughout the day.

Can I remind you that the school is a mobile free zone so please respect this. Thank you.

Hopefully this letter will contain much of the information you need. Mrs Watson and I are always available to answer questions, but if you want to have a longer chat please ring the office so that a time can be arranged.

Yours sincerely

Ms Kirk and Mrs Watson

Rainbow Class Teachers

