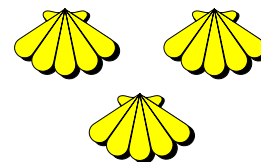


# High Wych C E Primary School

Founded in 1861



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Head Teacher: Mrs M. J. West

*Success and Excellence within a caring Christian Environment*

## Spring Newsletter

Year 5 - Blue Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday and are ready for another fantastic term in Year 5! We have some great topics this term, here is a brief outline.

**Reading** is an important part of your child's learning. Please continue to read with your child at least 5 times each week - it really does make a difference! We will monitor the records every Monday. Please take the time to talk to your child about what they have read.

For the first two weeks, we will be reading an adaptation of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross. This modern re-telling of Shakespeare's classic love story brings together the worlds of humans and fairies. After that, we will be reading 'I Am Not a Label' by Cerrie Burnell. This is an anthology which examines the lives of a range of disabled artists, athletes, scientists and activists from across the generations. The author's motivation is to ensure that people with a disability are represented in children's literature. For the rest of the term, we will be reading 'Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. The story centres on an ordinary boy, Ade, who lives with his mum at the top of a tower block. One day, buildings around them begin to fall down.

In **Writing** sessions this term, we will begin with poetry - 'The Listener' by Walter de la Mare, where we will be looking at narrative poetry and literacy techniques in writing. We will also be focusing on biographies and instructions linked to our text.

The children will continue with Big Writing in order to further develop their independent writing and editing skills. **Spelling, grammar** and **handwriting** will also be taught on a regular basis.

In **Maths** this term we will be improving our skills in multiplication and division written methods. This will involve working up to multiplying a 3-digit number by a 2-digit number and dividing a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number. In fractions, decimals and percentages, we will be finding fractions of an amount and ordering fractions with different denominators as well as ordering and comparing decimals with up to 3 decimal places. We will be calculating perimeter and area and in statistics, we will be reading and interpreting line graphs and timetables.



In **Science**, we will be focusing on properties and changes of material followed by living things and their habitats.

In **History**, the children will be learning about the Ancient Greeks. They will study Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world.

In **Geography**, we will be using the eight points of a compass (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world.

**RE** - Our question to explore for the first half term is: *What spiritual pathways to Moksha are written about in Hindu scriptures?* We will be learning about Hindu Gods and reading lots of Hindu stories. Christianity is our focus for the second half term with the question: Should believing in the resurrection change how Christians view life and death?

In **Art**, our topic is 'portraits'. It will involve us extending a drawn self-portrait, exploring how a background can change the finished effect and developing drawings into finished prints using a range of techniques, including monoprints.

After half term our **DT** topic is mechanical systems and we will be designing and making a pop-up book for young children.

In **Computing**, we will be building on their knowledge of coding including adding variables to a game and learning what decomposition and abstraction are in Computer Science, followed by developing our knowledge of databases.

We will be learning **French** each week. Our first unit is about the weather. By the end of this unit pupils will have the knowledge and skills to describe the weather and to also present a weather forecaster pretending to be on television. The second half term's topic is about The Romans. Through the medium of this familiar period of history, pupils will be taught the skills to understand slightly longer and more complicated text in French. Pupils will learn to 'gist' read, listen and understand more. This unit ties in with literacy, promoting a deeper understanding of the role of verbs, nouns, determiners and adjectives in sentences.

In **PE** the children will be developing their skills in hockey, counter balance and counter tension. They will be swimming after half term. Please make sure the children keep their PE kits in school.

In **Music** our theme is pop ballads, followed by hip hop music.

**Homework** will continue to be given out on a Friday to be returned on the following Wednesday please.

Please continue to provide your child with fruit or vegetables for snack each day and they will also need a water bottle too. Water bottles should contain water only for throughout the day.

As always, if you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a mutual time to discuss.

We look forward to the children having another great term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Moulsher and Mrs Siggers

Blue Class teachers

