



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
Beech Park, West Hill, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1UQ
01404 812599
admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Cheryl Boulton



Dear Parents,

A Happy New Year to you all. After a busy Christmas period we have now begun the new term with renewed activity in Class 6.

This term is one packed with new work, revision for SATs and preparation for the visit to Beam House.

In our English lessons, we shall be studying longer- established stories and a range of poetic forms, free verse and nonsense verse. Our non-fiction studies include writing for a purpose using appropriate language within leaflets, letter writing and balanced arguments. We shall of course be practising all the various writing styles, which should already be familiar to the children. Grammar and writing tasks will be sent home for homework throughout the term. They will mostly be 30 minute tasks. If it is a writing task then the first draft (unaided) should be handwritten in the homework book. Writing will be teacher assessed this year with a written grammar, punctuation and spelling test to help inform the assessment level.

In Mathematics this term, Mrs Tovey will be concentrating on decimals, percentages and fractions alongside investigative maths. Mrs Bennett will be introducing simple formula aspects of statistics as well as developing the children's knowledge of shape and measures. Problem solving will be a key aspect of our maths curriculum this term. Mrs.Harris and Mrs Bedford will be consolidating work already covered in the 4 operations and real-life problems. They will also be teaching decimals, percentages as well as area, perimeter and volume.

Science focuses on Living Things this term. The first half of the term will be spent developing the children's understanding of classification whereas the second half of the term the children will start to look at evolution and adaptation. There will be a much bigger emphasis on working scientifically within our topic. The children will continue to set up their own investigations but they will learn more about changing variables, repeating sets of observations, writing conclusions from a range of results and evaluating theirs and others findings to move their own learning on. They will also be starting to look at the work of scientists and how this has an impact on the way in which our world is now.

In Geography, the children will be looking at a topic called "In the News". This looks at current affairs locally, nationally and worldwide. This is alongside our main topic of Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes. Towards the end of term we will be giving the children details of a project to be carried out at home, to be completed by June. The organisation of this is done in class and guidance given at every stage. We feel that this is a particularly useful task in order to teach children how a project should



be tackled and presented in readiness for secondary school expectations. Written details will accompany the first stage of preparation.

Computing will continue to be taught through many subjects but our computing lessons will have focus on coding. The children will start to use a program called Touch Develop. They will also be creating information leaflets or brochures using publisher to support our topic on Mountains.

In PE, we are lucky to have Miss Murray again this term and we will be developing our dance using "The Lion King" as our theme. In our games lessons, the children will be developing hockey skills. Please ensure that they have a complete PE kit in school every day. At this time of year, we do encourage that they children bring in warm jogging trousers and a warm top to wear – please ensure that these are black, blue, green or grey and with no logos. The children also need to have wear shin pads and gum shields for hockey.

We look forward to meeting with you at the various events during the term. PGL will soon be here! Don't forget to keep all the old clothes and trainers or visit the charity shops for old socks, trousers etc. ready for the 'fun and games' at Beam House! How quickly the year has gone since our last visit. Mrs.Tovey will be at Beam House Monday-Tuesday and Mrs. Bennett Tuesday -Friday.

As always, we are available before school from 8am should you wish to telephone or pop into school, and most nights at 3.35pm. Please feel free to contact us either in the homework diary or personally if there are any problems. We would be grateful if you would please sign the homework diary each week to let us know that you have seen the week's homework, and that it has been carried out.

Best wishes for a happy and successful 2018.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Tovey

Clare Bennett

