



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
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Friday 18th January

Spring Term Newsletter 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

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 our PGL activity week.

English

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, non-chronological reports, letter writing and balanced arguments which will have a scientific theme for the majority of the term. We will be focusing some of our non-fiction writing on the book "Can we save the tiger?" by Martin Jenkins and Vicky White.

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.

Maths

In Mathematics this term, Mrs Harris will be concentrating on decimals, percentages and fractions alongside investigative maths. Mrs Bennett will be introducing simple formula, aspects of statistics such as pie charts, as well as continuing to develop the children's knowledge of shape and measures. Problem solving will be a key aspect of our maths curriculum this term.

Science

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 and the children will have further chance to set up their own investigations. 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.

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.

Computing

Computing will continue to be taught through many subjects but our computing lessons will have focus on coding. The children will continue to develop their coding skills using a programme called Python.

PE

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 their football skills. We are extremely lucky to have Exeter Community Trust deliver these lessons for us this term with Mrs Harris. After half term, we will continue with our hockey skills. Please ensure that your child has 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.

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.

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 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Harris & Clare Bennett