



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



CLASS 5 SPRING TERM CURRICULUM LETTER

Friday 17th January 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term. We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. This letter is to inform you of the main learning areas during the spring term and offer some guidance on how you can support your child's learning from home.

English

In English we will be studying a wide range of genres, which will include fiction, non-fiction and poetry. In fiction writing, we will be studying different text types and writing stories, fables, and linking our history and geography topics to writing. In non-fiction writing we will be exploring autobiographies, writing instructions and procedures. We will also be learning about different styles of performance poetry. Regular reading is of course very important in our work, as it benefits the basics of grammar and the English language, with the added benefit of helping the children formulate and explore their ideas adventurously. We have spoken to the children about the amount we expect them to be reading now and it is also very important for them to be taking the responsibility of recording their reading daily into their home school diaries as well as reflecting on their reading at least twice a week. There will be a very heavy focus on English this term in both class and group work – particularly with the accuracy of both reading and writing. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could remind your child of this when they are completing their homework.



Maths

Last term the children completed a lot of work with the four number operations. This term we will be consolidating their knowledge of number and further exploring fractions, percentages and decimals. Both maths groups will also be developing further their learning in the topics of shape and space, measure and data handling. We will also be applying these skills to problem solving situations. Having instant access to number facts will aid the children significantly as we look at some of the more conceptual topics of the curriculum. As such, in addition to the weekly homework, it will aid the children to regularly revise their tables, number bonds and mental arithmetic. This could be as simple as dropping in a quick times table question before breakfast or on the way to school!

Science

The children will be continuing to explore the forces topic started last term. This will be studied with a strongly practical and investigative approach and further explore the effects of forces, in particular, gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. They will then move on to the topic of materials. Through this topic they will be studying the properties of materials.

Computing

This term we will be analysing databases and spreadsheets, building further on our coding skills as well as embedding the use of the internet across the curriculum.



History and Geography

In History for the first half term, we will be concluding our topic on Ancient Greece and then moving later in the term to 'The Tudors.' Our Geography theme this term is 'Coasts, Rivers and Water Cycle' where we will look at coastlines and their features.

Art

Our Art focus this term will be the work of Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky.

Music

In Music the children will be developing further their skills in the playing of Toots with the aim of performing in our class assembly. We will also be starting to learn how to play the ocarina as a whole class.

R.E

In R.E this term we will be studying Beliefs in Action in the World, with the particular focus on Christianity and Buddhism.

P.E

In indoor P.E sessions the focus will be on dance and gymnastics, whilst outdoors we will be practising invasion games. Please can your child have shorts and a T shirt for our indoor sessions but as the weather at this time of year can get very cold, we advise that the children have tracksuit bottoms in school for outdoor sessions.

Homework

The children will continue to receive homework as they did in the autumn term.

Mrs. Tovey will be continuing to set English homework tasks and Mrs. Bedford will setting spellings and Maths.

Our Class 5 assembly will be on **Friday 24th January 2019 at 10.10am.**

A highlight of this term will no doubt be our activities week and we will be sending you more details about the week very soon!

Finally, may we take this opportunity to request that you check with your child that they still have all of the equipment required for school. This includes pencils, pens, rulers, rubbers and ideally a small glue-stick.

If you have any concerns over the course of the term, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to come and see us. We look forward to a happy and successful spring term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Bedford & Mrs S Tovey

