

High Littleton C. of E. Primary School, High Littleton, Bristol BS39 6HF

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school and even more importantly....welcome to Hedgehog Class!

We hope you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break and that the children are excited and ready for our first term together, in Year 1.

Just a reminder that Hedgehog Class' teachers this year are: Miss Wheeler (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) and Mrs Richardson (Thursday and Friday). If you ever need to chat to any of us with any questions or concerns you may have, we will be out on the gates at the end of each school day; alternatively, please do drop an email to the office and we will find a suitable time to meet.

Please find below, some information about our first term:

Reading

The children will continue to read regularly with an adult in Hedgehog Class this year, either as part of a small group or on a 1:1 basis, and should bring their book bags to school every day. Reading books will be changed and sent home each week - on your child's book change day (this will be shown on the front of their Reading Record). To support us in this process, please comment in your child's Reading Record to confirm books have been completed successfully (or whether you feel your child would benefit from keeping his/her book/s for another week).

Phonics

Phonics continues to be of huge importance to help the children grow as both readers and writers. We will continue to have daily phonics sessions within the classroom where the children can focus on practising sounds they have already learnt in Reception and beginning to learn new sounds as we start to progress into Phase 5.

Writing

In Year One we use a writing scheme called Write Stuff to begin to develop the children's skills in writing. This scheme is then continued throughout the school to allow the children to progress sequentially. Write

"Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12



stuff uses 'FANTASTICS, GRAMMERISTICS and BOOMTASTICS' (below) to support our collaborative and independent writing.

The FANTASTICS:

F	A	N	T	A	S	T	I	C
Feelings	Asking (dialogue)	Noticing	Touching	Action	Smelling	Tasting	Imagining	Checking (hearing)

The GRAMMERISTICS:

Adverbials	Basics	Complex sentences	Dialogue/contracted forms	Purpose	Paragraphs	Passive/active voice	Tenses	Punctuation

The BOOMTASTICS:

Onomatopoeia	Alliteration	Rhyme	Repetition	Similes	Metaphor	Pathetic fallacy	Pun	Personification

Our writing this term will link directly to our geography topic of Amazing Africa. We will use the *Handa's Surprise (Eileen Brown)* within our Write Stuff sessions to write our own narrative.

Maths

As mathematicians, the children will begin with a recap of prior maths skills then move on to develop and secure their understanding of counting and place value; with an introduction to addition and subtraction to end the term. The children will be learning to; sort objects and count up to 10, add one more and one less and compare numbers.

Wider Curriculum

In geography this term, the children will be learning all about 'Amazing Africa'. This topic will focus on looking at a map of the world and locating Africa, more specifically Kenya, and the seven continents. The children will be looking at life in Kenya, the weather in Kenya, human and physical geography and comparing Kenyan life to our life in High Littleton.

As scientists, the children will be learning about seasonal changes. They will develop their knowledge to:

- name the four seasons in order and describe the typical weather in each. Name some activities and events in the four seasons;
- describe the appearance of a tree's leaves in each season;
- recall that summer has the most daylight hours and winter has the least daylight hours;
- record data about the temperature across the four seasons.

They will also develop skills to:

- label a map of the UK with capital cities and seasonal weather symbols;
- complete a pictogram and use it to answer simple questions;
- record data about the temperature across the four seasons.

In Design and Technology the children will begin to design and create a windmill by looking at various structures.

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In RE, we will be thinking about God and Creation. We will be looking at the creation story and exploring different parables in The Bible. Computing will focus on how we use technology in the world and begin using the chromebooks in school and looking at basic skills.

PE this term will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays; Tuesday lessons will be Ball Skills with Miss Wheeler and Thursday lessons will be Invasion Games, with a visiting PE specialist, Mrs Laura Macdonald.

In Jigsaw (PSHE) sessions, our puzzle this term is 'Being Me'. We will discuss how we are all special and our roles and responsibilities within the classroom help us learn. How we need to work together and to be proud of our achievements both individually and as a class.

General Reminders:

- Please note that children do not need to bring pencil cases, stationery or bags (other than book bags) into school.
- Children should bring their own fruit for morning snack and a water bottle; the children will have an afternoon snack which is provided by the school.
- Please ensure that all property in school is labelled clearly with your child's name, particularly jumpers, water bottles and fruit pots.
- Please remember that PE kits should be worn on PE days: ensure long hair is tied back and earrings are able to be removed or covered.

Yours sincerely,

Jade Wheeler and Claire Richardson.
Hedgehog Class Teachers.

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