

# HINCHLEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Hogan  
Claygate Lane,  
Esher,  
Surrey KT10 0AQ  
Tel: 020 8398 1310

[info@hinchley-wood-primary.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@hinchley-wood-primary.surrey.sch.uk)  
[www.hwps.co.uk](http://www.hwps.co.uk)



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## Hinchley Wood Primary School

### Curriculum Newsletter Year 6 - Autumn First Half Term

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a great start to the new academic year and wanted to take the opportunity to tell you about some of the topics Year 6 will be studying in the first half of the autumn term. We hope this information will be useful to you.

#### Useful tips:

We hand out homework on a Tuesday and the children are expected to hand this back in the following Tuesday. They will have 2 homework folders which will run on a 2 week rota. When you have a homework folder at home, we will have the second one in school. PE kits should come into school on a Monday and will go home with children on a Friday. Homework diaries are checked on a Monday and Thursday morning to ensure children are keeping up with reading at home.

#### English:

This half term we will be reading the story *The Adventures of Odysseus*. We ask that you do not purchase a copy of this or read ahead, so that the children can engage with the story together and are able to hone their prediction and inference skills. During our English sessions we will be focusing on drafting and writing longer pieces of text including diary entries, letters and comic strips. The children will also be using a dictionary to check their spellings and thesaurus to up-level and vary their vocabulary. If your child is doing any free writing at home, please encourage the use of these resources if you have them available.

We ask for your support in ensuring your children read aloud to a parent/carer **regularly**, as this will greatly assist their reading and comprehension skills. Please ask your children questions about what they have read in order to test their understanding, for example asking 'Why do you think the main character made that decision?' or 'Can you predict what might happen next?' Being able to summarise a piece of text is an important skill; please ask your child to do this when you read with them. The children should use their homework diary as a reading record. They should write a comment about what is happening in the book or their opinion of what they have read at least twice a week. We check the homework diaries on a Monday and Thursday to ensure the children are keeping a neat record of regular reading at home; something that is highly valued in year 6.

#### Maths

This half term, Year 6 will be looking at place value; reading and writing numbers to 10,000,000, rounding any whole number with a required degree of accuracy, using negative numbers in context, calculating intervals across zero and solving number and practical problems using all of these skills. We will also be looking at the 4 operations; solving multi-step addition and subtraction problems, long division and multiplication, short division with remainders, identifying common factors, multiples and prime numbers and using estimation for an appropriate degree of accuracy. We expect children to

know the times tables up to 12 x 12. If your child has not yet learnt their times tables, please help them learn them. In our experience, it is very difficult for a child to make good progress in numeracy without this basic knowledge. Playing regularly on TT Rockstars and other online games such as 'Hit the Button' will help them to recall times tables.

### **Science**

We begin with the topic of Classifying Critters – Living Things in their Habitats. The children will be creating branching trees to classify different animals and plants. They will also be conducting a mould experiment on bread to identify how germs increase and what factors can affect germs spreading and growing.

### **History**

We begin the term with a unit of work on Ancient Greece. We will be looking at the location of Greece. The children will be making comparisons between Athens and Sparta and making comparisons between the Ancient Greek Olympics and the Olympics now.

### **Computing**

This half term we will start with looking at e-safety and how to stay safe online. We will also investigate the capabilities of smartphones and consider the possibility of a new app that could be created to solve various problems.

### **RE**

During RE, our focus starts with The Holy Trinity and The Holy Spirit. After that, the children will begin to understand that people make their own choices based on their beliefs and we end the half term looking at fairness and equality.

### **PSHE**

In PSHE we start our Jigsaw topic of 'Being me in my world'. Children will think about our current school and how it helps us learn, their responsibilities as a learner, rewards and consequences, and how to set a good example. Children will also explore how children around the world view education and how this differs from their own experiences.

### **Design Technology**

Our Art and Design focus will be linked to history and we will be creating portraits and Greek masks.

### **PE:**

For PE we will be playing invasion games (e.g. football) and extending our skills on the basic principles for attacking and defending. During indoor PE we will be doing gymnastics with a focus on flexibility, strength balance skills & basic sequences.

### **Music:**

This term the children will be studying feel good pop and soul whilst listening to and appraising different styles.

### **French**

We are very lucky to have a French teacher from Hinchley Wood Secondary School to teach the children French this Year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to make an appointment to see us. We look forward to meeting you at the Parents' Meeting later on the 26th.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Smith; Miss Morgan; Mr Martin and Mrs Frost  
Year 6 class teachers