



WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 5

Year 1

Welcome

I hope you all had a good break. Your children have all made progress, demonstrated by their test results and I am very proud of them. This term our topic is called 'What Mr Darwin Saw' and we will be considering evolution, the different environments and animals that Darwin studied together with his life. Our science will focus on humans, particularly discovering how our senses work. We will also be preparing for our May day celebrations.

Maths

We will be continuing to work on place value using larger numbers and the ability to add and subtract. We will be moving from using resources such as counters to using number lines and abstract methods. We will also focus multiplication and division, fractions and position and turn. We will continue to work on problem solving techniques.

Dates and Things to Remember

PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. This term Ben Stoneman will be taking one session and focussing on football and fitness. I will focus on dance and May pole practice. Hopefully we will be outside for most PE sessions, please ensure children have named PE kits including trainers. Reading books are changed on Mondays. Homework is issued on Fridays and handed in on Wednesdays. Spellings are issued on Fridays and tested the following Friday.

English

Our literacy will be taught through our topic book and a specific reading, handwriting and phonics session each day will support this. We will focus on non fiction by finding out about the Beagle and the life and works of Charles Darwin. We will look at the poem 'On the Ning Nang Nong' by Spike Milligan, learn it and perform it to Year 2. We will continue to work on correct punctuation and applying the year 1 grammar rules such as adding ed and s/es. My aim is to develop writing skills by using complex sentences and adventurous vocabulary. As children become more confident with applying their phonic knowledge we will move towards developing comprehension skills and especially inference. At home please talk to children about their understanding of whatever they read.

Topic

Our topic is based round the book 'What Mr Darwin Saw' by Mick Manning. It outlines the journey on the Beagle to different parts of the world and the discoveries Darwin made which led to his book 'On the Origin of Species'. We will be looking at tortoises, finding out about dinosaurs and finding out about what life was like aboard a ship. Our History will focus on Darwin as a significant figure. In science we will be conducting experiments to explore our senses such as smell pots and tasting. The RE topic is called 'Books and Stories in Christianity', as part of this topic I would like the children to bring in a book that is special to them. Our Art topic is called 'Paper play' and we will be making paper sculptures and looking at the work of Louise Bourgeois 'Maman'. In ICT we will continue to use the purple mash scheme and look at coding together with online safety. PSHE will focus on relationships and music on pitch and tempo.

Homework

Weekly homework will be reading, spellings and a page from the Maths and an English homework books that will be given out on Fridays with a page reference. There will also be a writing task towards the end of term. Also the occasional request for information related to our topic.

**Our Value for this month is
Honesty**

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information <http://www.westhaddonprimary.net>

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