



Over the past 2 weeks, it has been lovely to see the children of our new Ennis-Hill class return and to welcome me so warmly, as a new teacher to West Vale academy. The children have been very excited to continue to build their knowledge of our broad and balanced curriculum and we will continue this throughout the year. This year at West Vale Academy, alongside our whole school vision, we have included some new school values for the children to remember, each linked with an illustration of an animal to remind them of those expectations. During this half term, we will be focusing on kindness, resilience and honesty. It would be greatly appreciated if the values of West Vale may be discussed at home too.

Maths

In maths this half term, we started by looking at place value. The children have enjoyed using place value charts to aid understanding and recognising the pictorial representations of numbers. Next the children will move onto addition and subtraction, where they can use and build upon their knowledge of strategies to complete calculations.



Art/ DT:

In Art, the children have been learning about different styles in art and have been creating their own depictions of these styles in their art books.

DT will be taught after the half term.



Science:

In science, over this half term the children have already begun looking at the human body. They will continue this learning by understanding how we keep our bodies healthy through our teeth and senses, a healthy diet and digestion.



Geography/History:

In History, we have begun looking into The Early British Empire, how we as a nation began the journey towards an empire and who helped us to do this.

In geography we have started our topic by looking at geographical tools on a globe, this will develop into the children learning why these are useful and then looking at our local area and how this has changed over time.



English:

Over the half term, the children will be reading the graphic novel 'Tom's Midnight Garden'. The children will produce writing linked to the text including class poems, diary entries, persuasive letters and then ending by writing their own graphic novel!



Computing:

Computing will be taught in a full day block at the end of the term. The children will use a Chromebook to begin looking at how we can work collaboratively whilst being online. They will look at sharing documents, creating presentations and spreadsheets, all collaboratively.



PE:

The children will be taking part in both swimming and indoor PE. For their indoor PE lessons, the children will be practising tag rugby, where they will develop the correct way to hold and pass a ball. Swimming will continue from where children were last time and will be taught at Sowerby Bridge pool and fitness centre.



PSHCE & RE:

In PSHE, the children will be learning about family and friendships and what good relationships look like.

In RE, the children will answer the key question 'How are important events remembered?'



Music:

The children have been looking at Rock and Roll. We have already begun by doing the 'hand jive', singing 'Rocking around the clock' by Bill Haley and the unit will end with the children being able to play and perform the walking bassline of 'Rocking around the clock' on a glockenspiel.



Class messages:

To showcase the fantastic work that the children have produced, we are excited to welcome you into school on Wednesday 19th October, 3:10 until 4:00, to share what we are learning in Ennis-Hill class. Also this year, we are excited to have Phunky foods back in school working with our four year 5 ambassadors to help us educate ourselves on how we should lead a healthy lifestyle!

Important dates to remember:

Swimming days — Every Wednesday afternoon, Indoor PE — Every Thursday afternoon

Friday 21st October — Break up from school for the half term.

Tuesday 1st November 2022—Children return to school.