



January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday period.

Learning

In **English** we will be starting the term by finishing reading *Spud Murphy* by Eoin Colfer. We will then move on to reading *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes and *The Mousehole Cat* by Antonia Barber. We will be focusing on writing to persuade (a letter and book recommendation), writing to entertain (narrative) and writing to inform (newspaper articles).



In **Reading** the children will continue with whole-class reading lessons. We will be exploring a range of texts with the children, including *I am the Seed that Grew the Tree* by F. Waters, *Two Sides* by Polly Ho Yen, *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and *The Street Beneath my Feet* by Charlotte Guillain.

In **Maths** we are starting the term with a unit exploring right angles. We will then move on to learning about multiplication and division in depth, focusing on the children’s understanding and reasoning. After half term, we will be learning column addition and column subtraction. Throughout the term, we will also be learning our 2, 4 and 8 times tables in depth. Please continue to work on these together at home too. The game <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> is a free and engaging recommended app.

Our **Science** topic will be *Plants*. We will be identifying the parts of a flowering part and their functions, investigating the way water is transported in plants and exploring the process of pollination through a range of active enquiries

This term years 2 to 6 will all be teaching a geography unit. We have redesigned our geography curriculum this year, and we will soon be able to share with you the new “Knowledge Organiser” for our unit of learning. You can read more about this in the WHPS Weekly published on 24th January. Year 3’s unit is **Urban and Rural**, and will involve learning about the different ways land is used in the city and the countryside, with a focus on London and Cornwall. You can find out more about all of our school curriculum by visiting the [“Our Curriculum > Y1 to Y6 curriculum”](#) section on the new school website.

Home Learning

We will continue to send homework each Friday.

Spelling Homework Set	Spelling Quiz
Friday	Friday



The children will bring home:

- 10 spellings to practise at home
- Handwriting

Your child also receives weekly maths homework on Mathletics. We encourage every child to aim to earn 1000 points each week, which is recognised by a certificate in achievement assembly on a Wednesday. Your child's log in details are in the back of their reading record.

In addition to weekly homework, we expect all children to read for at least 15-20 minutes each day. Reading is a fundamental part of the children's development and it has a positive impact on comprehension skills, writing, maths and many other subjects. Children should complete their reading records to evidence the reading they have done and bring these to school every day where they will be checked by your child's teacher. The children will also earn stickers on their bookmark every time they read which will result in certificates and even brand new books to keep!

Uniform and PE Lessons

Make-up and jewellery, with the exception of stud ear-rings and a watch are not allowed. All children are expected to wear full school uniform at all times. PE for Year 3 will be on a **Friday**. Mersey will be going swimming every Friday afternoon for the first half of the year and Thames class for the second half (after the February half term holiday). Children will need to come to school wearing a PE kit and a pair of trainers.

Healthy School

West Hampstead Primary School is a healthy school. Please help us by providing a **healthy packed lunch**. You may also send in a **fruit portion** for children to eat at snack time. Your child should also bring in a **water bottle** every day. We will celebrate birthdays with a class birthday song and 'Happy Birthday' stickers. Please do not send in sweets or cake.

General Expectations

We would like to remind you that school and learning starts at **9:00**. The gates will be open at 8:50. The school day ends at 3:30.

We look forward to continuing working with both you and your children. If you should have any general questions regarding the year ahead, please do not hesitate to contact us through year3@westhampstead.camden.sch.uk

Hannah Vinter and Jenny Turner