



Oak Spring Newsletter



Welcome back and Happy New Year. This is the usual termly letter to inform you of things going on in Oak class this term



Curriculum

This term we will continue to deliver a whole school curriculum where all children will be immersed in our topic at an age appropriate level. The topic this term is ‘Animal Antics!’ and below is an overview of what we will be teaching.

Animal Antics	
Science	Thinking Scientifically – What is it like to be a scientist? Year 3 – Animals, including humans and plants - Recognise and name different parts of the human body, compare and contrast the different diets of animal and design meals based on these findings. . Comparing different factors for plant growth: transportation and dispersal.
Geography	Place Knowledge and Geographical Skills Using a map to locate geographical features including cities, towns, rivers and civic boundaries. Able to name capital cities, countries, main rivers and some oceans, with a focus on the British Isles and it’s surrounding seas and oceans. Interpreting a range of geographical information – map work ,map skills and orientation.
History	The Life of a Significant Person and the impact they have had on a national level – Who were Beatrix Potter and George Stubbs? Pupils pose questions to find out about famous people and events in the past. They use primary and secondary sources to research, retrieve information. Use a range of presentation skills to present their findings. Pupils use the information they have researched to make judgements about key people and events in the past. Role play- Whole school Victorian day: finding out about a famous author, investigating toys from the past, understanding what it was like to school in the past, local study focus, primary sources from our own school for pupils to investigate. Would you have preferred to go to school in Victorian times? Investigating historical objects and finding out about the past – Roman mosaics and the invasion (Chronology)
Art	Animals in Art (also see RE) Great artists – Famous painter, George Stubbs. Begin to sketch, paint, collage and use a variety of textures to create images of animals. Use of Brushes mobile app to create images digitally. Compare works with a modern artist. Making masks for Book Week, with a focus on the animals features in the stories of Beatrix Potter. Looking at the artwork of animals through time; using a range of media to create a range of 2D and 3D images.
D.T	Design a picture with moving parts, linked to art animal stories. Plan, review and evaluate designs.
Cooking	Cooking and nutrition- Easter stained glass biscuits (RE Christian Values) Healthy food: Use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet, as well as understand where food comes from. Science link to nutrition and healthy eating. (Food chains)
PSHEC	Whole school approach to Well Being and Learning Learning Powers (AXBRIDGE and Growth Mindset) ‘My Brain’, understanding our brain, how it affects our behaviours and learning. Developing emotional literacy. Online-safety – Privacy and Security Powerful Passwords and Private and Personal Information
R.E	Christian Values Whole school focus on school Christian Values of: Forgiveness and Hope. Expressive art workshop for whole school, with work to be displayed in church. “Betrayal and Forgiveness” – Why was Jesus betrayed by his friends?
P.E	Swimming Golden Mile- Developing personal competence in a range of activities, sustained over a period of time, which encourages pupils to live healthy and active lives. Specialist Sports Coaching Sessions Zumba taster session
Computing	Programming using the app Scratch Junior in order to use, sequence, select and repeat in programs. They will design, write and debug simple programs that will solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts. Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private (see PSHEC and Online Safety)
Music	With increasing confidence and control, children use a range of tuned and un-tuned instruments to compose and perform and evaluate their own work and the work of others
French	Year 3 and 4 scheme of work – I-Languages – Exploring the patterns and sounds of language through song. Beginning to engage in conversation using simple language structures. Beginning to speak in sentences, beginning to use familiar vocabulary.

Swimming lessons

The lessons start on Tuesday 9th January and continue each Tuesday until (and including) 20th March 2018. Please ensure your child has their swimming kit in school every Tuesday.

Book change

This will be done on a daily basis. Your child's book needs to be signed before they are able to choose a new one. If your child reads long books they need to be changed at least once a week and shorter books at least twice a week. We do keep a record of when books are changed so please encourage your child to read as much as possible.

We are continuing our challenge to read 100 words in a minute using expression and a clear voice. We have had lots of fun practising in class and will continue to do this throughout the year.

Your child will also continue to choose a library book every week on a **Thursday**. Your child has a library book sheet to record the books they choose. Your child needs to return this book before taking a new one.

Spellings

These will be given to the children on a Monday. They will be written in their spelling booklets and have activities to do in class as well as at home. The activities we would like the children to do at home are finding the meanings of their words and using the 'Try it' sheets, and spelling games. All of which are in their spelling booklets. Please ensure that spelling booklets are sent back into school on **Monday mornings**.

P.E

P.E sessions will be every Friday afternoon and all classes will be having an extra specialist coaching session on a Thursday, once every half term. Can you please ensure your child has their kit in on those days. The majority of P.E lessons are done outside, so could you please send in a pair of trainers for your child to wear as they have more grip, and a pair of tracksuit bottoms as the weather can be very unpredictable. Could you also tie long hair back and remove earrings.

Water bottles

Your child has access to these throughout the day so please send your child's water bottle in daily. It is really important that they stay hydrated as it helps with their concentration.

Homework

To support your child's learning we would like you to try a few activities at home with your child. Please don't panic, they are things you have done before and they are fun!!!

Reading: The expectation is, if your child has shorter books they need to read at least two books a week and if they are reading longer books at least one a week. Also, to complete a book review, of a book of their choice every half term (a sheet will be sent home).

Spellings: Spelling booklets (Try it sheet, word definitions) and spelling games.

Multiplication facts: Mastery Booklet (a page at a time not the whole booklet).

Times-table Rockstar's (website) or Hit the button (Topmarks website).

We understand that life can be a little hectic, but your support would be greatly appreciated.



Mrs. Maunders and Mrs. Ingarfill will continue to share their time between Oak and Redwood. We also have Mrs. Taylor supporting readers on Wednesday afternoons.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate in coming to see me.

Here's to an exciting Spring Term, working in partnership with you on your child's learning journey.

Thank you,

Miss Stones