

Oak Class Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all had a restful and relaxing Christmas. It has been lovely to welcome Oak Class back after the holidays and hear their news.

What we are learning this term:

This half-term our topic is called 'Playlist', a Music focussed topic, where we will explore rhythm, beat and pitch culminating in creating a class song. We will listen to, evaluate and appraise different music genres from the 20th century.

During this topic:

- In Science we will discover how sounds are made and which sounds travel the furthest. We will research and explain how we can hear sound and investigate how we can change pitch and effective ways to absorb sound.
- In DT we will be exploring, designing and making a pair of funky ear muffs using our knowledge of which materials are the most effective at absorbing sound.
- In PE we will be exploring different styles of Dance.
- In Computing we will learn to create, develop and refine digital musical compositions.

After half term we will be studying a topic called 'Misty Mountain Sierra' As the title suggests this is a Geography focussed topic exploring the mountain environment.

During this topic:

- We will use maps and atlases to locate mountain ranges around the world. We will describe the physical and human features of these areas and discover the different types of mountains and how they are formed.
- In Science we will explore different states of matter looking in particular at the water cycle. We will investigate and explain the effects of heating and cooling on a range of substances.
- In Art we will use clay to create mountain sculptures and produce mountain landscapes.
- In PE we will participate in outdoor activities and challenges developing our orienteering skills.

In RE our topic is 'Christmas' where we are exploring the role of angels in the Christmas story. We will then move onto 'Revelation' where we will be looking at how God is revealed through Jesus. This will be followed by our 'Lent' and 'Holy Week' topic (see separate RE newsletter for more details).

Our English Learning this term:

In English this term we will be studying:

- Different poetic forms, including List poems and Performance Poetry exploring simile, onomatopoeia, alliteration and rhyming. We will develop our understanding of nouns, adjectives, verbs and expanded noun phrases. We will compose and write our own poems.
- Information Texts and Non-Chronological Reports exploring the features of these texts, including tense, use of adverbials and conjunctions to extend sentences and developing paragraphs around a theme.
- Narrative looking particularly at describing character by developing use of adverbials to show what a character is like rather than just telling.

Our Maths Learning this term:

In Maths this term we will be studying:

- Fractions and Decimals: finding fractions of amounts, identifying equivalent fractions, relating fractions to 1 place decimals and \times/\div decimals by 10/100
- Multiplication and Division: \times by 10/100, consolidate grid multiplication moving onto the column method and division with remainders
- Addition and Subtraction: consolidate column addition and subtraction with 4 digit numbers and money
- Shape: study and draw polygons, draw circles and name the parts, identify and explore 3D shapes and understand coordinates

MULTIPLICATION FACTS

This term we will continue the focus on learning our multiplication facts. All the children now have a username and password for Timestable RockStars <https://play.trockstars.com/>

I know that some have been unable to log on at home due to our school name not being recognised. Please try putting in our school postcode – BH20 6DS to see if that helps rather than the school name. Please let me know if you are having problems logging on and I will see if I can help.

HOMEWORK

Homework will follow the same routine as last term:

Tuesday

Spellings will be sent home on a Tuesday to be learnt for a test on the following Monday.

Friday Maths and English Homework

to be handed in by the following Wednesday

READING BOOKS

By now, all children should be changing their reading book independently. Some are doing this very regularly, whilst others often need reminding.

Many of the school reading books have questions to discuss and answer; it would be very helpful if you could spend some time talking through these questions with your child as it helps to develop their comprehension of what they have read.

GAMES

Oak Class Games and PE sessions will continue to be on Tuesday and Thursday.

They need their full PE kit in school. They may wear trainers for Games sessions. It would be a good idea for children to have an extra pair of socks in their PE kit, just in case their feet get wet when outside.

Singing Strategy Workshop

Friday 25th January

As part of our 'Playlist' topic this term Dorset Music Service will be delivering a singing workshop with the class. During this workshop the children will compose and create a melody for a new school song. The performance of their song will also be recorded.

YEAR 4 NEW BARN

20th – 22nd March 2018

We also have our residential trip to New Barn to look forward to. We leave on Wednesday 20th March arriving back in school on Friday 22nd March. We are still receiving parent payments – If you have any questions regarding your balance please contact the school office.

Please come to a short meeting on Thursday 7th March in our classroom to find out all you need to know! If you are unable to come to this meeting I will send out the kit list and main details to you via parentmail.

WANTED: For our DT Ear Muffs project

If your child has any ear muffs at home could they please bring them in on Thursday next week so that we can explore their effectiveness and how they have been made.

Also we need some 2 litre plastic bottles for the making part. If you have any empty 2 litre plastic bottles please bring them into school.

Thank you