



# ACADEMY UPDATE

For parents and carers

## JANUARY 2018

Dear parents and carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you Oakwood Primary Academy school priorities for the Spring Term. These have been determined following assessments and reviews of teaching and learning at the end of the Autumn Term and aim to further develop our school's effectiveness.

Over the next two terms we will be focusing on the following:

- In reading we will continue to develop reading comprehension skills so that children can read a wide variety of books fluently and use their reading skills to retrieve, infer, deduce and evaluate what they have read. It would be great if you could continue to read regularly with your child and encourage them through the Owl Reading and REN schemes. Please take time to discuss and ask questions about their books and talk about and explain new words to broaden vocabulary development. Using a wide and varied range of vocabulary not only helps with reading but can help your child make their writing more exciting to read.
- In writing this term we will be reviewing the ways we teach and assess writing against the year group expectations for the National Curriculum. There will be a continued focus on handwriting so that writing is joined, fluent and of a high standard. It would be great if you could encourage your child to think carefully about their handwriting when they are doing their homework so that their presentation is the best that it can be. For children not yet joining please make sure that their letters are formed correctly and are a consistent size. (For further information on handwriting please look on the website under the About Us tab in the Curriculum section.)
- In mathematics we will be focusing on developing Maths Mastery. As part of this focus we will be developing fluency and mathematical thinking in a range of mathematical contexts and challenges. It would be great if you can continue to support your child to learn number facts so that they have a quick and accurate recall of number. Times Table Rock Stars is a brilliant online resource you and your child can use at home to help support these important skills.

These priorities will be reviewed again at the end of the Spring Term and a further update will follow at the beginning of the Summer Term.

I would like to thank you for your continued support for our school and your engagement with any learning opportunities that your child undertakes. We will be sending out our annual school reports on **Wednesday 28th March** and once again there will be an opportunity for you to share your comments and discuss your child's progress further by attending one of the parent evenings, which will follow early in Term 5. These dates will be shared on the newsletter in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Nettleship', written in a cursive style.

Alison Nettleship  
Chief Executive Officer/Executive Headteacher  
Discovery Multi Academy Trust