

Oak Class Curriculum Letter

Spring 2016: Welcome back to Oak class, we hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break! We have many exciting and valuable learning experiences planned and are looking forward to exploring these in the term ahead. Below, we have outlined some of the key skills we will be developing this term alongside some of the exciting activities we will be providing. As a school we really value the help and support our parents offer and we are keen to continue to develop these home-school links.

Homework: Please continue to encourage your child to read every day at home and hand in their reading records each morning. This will give children the opportunity to earn bronze, silver and gold awards each term for their hard work. Children will continue to change their reading and library books once a week but do feel free to read different books you may have at home.

Stargets: As we progress through the spring term, we will encourage the children to think more about their learning intentions before their self-initiated play and reflect on their achievements after these sessions. Our Starget charts help your child to think about their learning and celebrate their achievements. Please continue to create these opportunities at home, your efforts make a huge difference and are greatly appreciated. If you need a copy of your child's Stargets or have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Miss Beeney.

Core Skills

Maths

Oak class will continue to develop their mathematical skills though self-initiated play, as well as through tasks sent to us by various characters! This term we will focus on number and addition through our 'Around the World in 80 Days' learning experience, counting and adding groups of animals. We will encourage number recognition and formation through planned and self-initiated tasks and practice these skills in group games.



Literacy

Oak class will be learning about how we can use non-fiction books to find out more about traveling the world and the animals you find along the way. They will explore the contents page as well as reading facts about the world and animals. We will continue to support your child's early reading and writing skills through Big Writing and Phonics sessions, as well as updating their key rings with new sounds. Please continue to recap the sounds they already know to secure their understanding.



Curriculum Experiences

Around the World in 80 Days!



This experience will take place from the 4th January 2015 until Friday 4th March 2016.

During the first half term, Oak class will be finding out about the world around them by exploring a wide variety of climates, animals and their habitats and how these vary in different places around the world. Children will share with their peers what they already know about different animals and their habitats and will have the opportunity to find out new and interesting information. They will compare what they find with their immediate environment and use their joint knowledge to create a fact file that will be shared with KS2. During this experience the children will also be visited by a hot air balloon and will have the chance to share their own experiences of travel and journeys. Through this experience we will be developing the core value of **respect**.

Children will have access to a range of resources in order to find out more about animals and their habitats such as fact books, pictures, interactive media and small world animals to help develop their role play. We will be exploring stories linked to travel and various animals, using puppets and dressing up materials to act out these narratives.

Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.

- Find out interesting facts about an animal of your choice.
- Draw, paint or build a model of an animal.
- Make your own fact book about animals that live in 'hot' or 'cold' places.

Easter Celebration!



This experience will be taking place from the 7th March 2014 until the Thursday 24th March 2016.

The final experience of the term will lead into our Easter celebrations. The children will begin this experience by learning about the Easter story, focussing on the symbolism of this event for Christians around the world. They will be challenged to make a garden to represent the different parts of the Easter story and share these with their peers. The children will also have further opportunities to design their own Easter egg and make Easter cards. We will also be thinking about 'New Life' and looking for signs of Spring in our school grounds. This will include talking about the daffodils that we planted in our garden patch back in the Autumn term.

During this unit the children will also participate in a celebration of Easter at St Mary's Church.

Through this experience we will be developing the core value of **creativity**

Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.

- Look for signs of new life on nature walks or in your garden!
- Make your own Easter card