

Oak Class Curriculum Letter

Spring Term 2017: 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.

Core Skills

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, the children will continue to develop their social skills through their self-initiated play, initiating games and working together. When working with their carpet partner and in groups, we will encourage the children to talk confidently about their ideas, as well as listening to the ideas of others and responding to these appropriately.

Communication, Language and Phonics

The children will continue to develop their listening skills and talk about what they have heard. They will start to verbalise their ideas clearly in sentences which will aid their writing skills as they begin to write sentences. In Phonics, we will begin to look at using a capital letter at the beginning of our sentences, as well as full stops at the end. We will also think about using the connective 'and' to join our sentences together.

Mathematical Development

In Maths, the children will be thinking about time by discussing their daily routines and using language related to time, for example what they might do in the morning, afternoon and evening. We will continue to strengthen the children's number recognition, as well as continuing to look at addition and subtraction. As we start to record some of our work, we will be looking at number formation and how we write numbers accurately.

Physical Development

The children will continue to have access to activities such as playdough, using scissors and pedalling the bikes in order to develop their fine and gross motor skills. They will continue to have weekly PE sessions which will involve a range of activities to develop their special awareness, throwing and catching techniques and ability to move safely. We will also be focusing on the letter formation of individual letters, by writing these in sand, mud, on paper and many other textures!

General Information



Thank you for all of the support that you give to your child, ensuring they continue along their learning journey at home as well as at school.

Children in Oak Class will continue to have regular PE sessions on Wednesdays and will also have opportunities to use the outdoor climbing equipment. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

Please continue to encourage your child to read every day at home and hand in their reading record each morning. This will give children the opportunity to earn bronze, silver and gold awards each term as they move their way up the reading stars. 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.

As we progress through the Spring term, we will encourage the children to think about their learning intentions before their self-initiated play and reflect on their achievements after these sessions. Our Target charts, which were sent home in the Autumn term, 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 Targets, or have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Mrs Gill or Mrs Fogden.

Curriculum Experiences



Once upon a time...

For the first part of the Spring term, we will be exploring traditional tales such as Goldilocks, Little Red Riding Hood and The Little Red Hen. We will be focusing on the setting, characters and structure within the stories. There will be many opportunities to retell these tales through role play, books and puppets before the children begin to plan their own stories. This learning experience will also teach children basic addition and subtraction skills as they plan a picnic for Little Red Riding Hood, making sure that the wolf does not eat any of the food! During Oak Class' self-initiated sessions, the children will have access to masks and costumes so that they can act out traditional tales as well as create their own. They will have paper and envelopes to write letters to various character and also Beebots to make their own story maps. We will develop this learning experience through the observations and interests of the children, however through adult directed sessions, the children will be developing their skills in Literacy and Expressive Arts and Media, as well as Communication and Language and Mathematics.



The circle of life

During this learning experience, the children will be exploring the outside world as they look for signs of Spring in the eco garden and talk about the changes that they have observed over time. We have planted bulbs in our outdoor garden and will watch them as they grow, talking about the key things that plants need to help them with this growth. The children will also regularly look in our pond in the hope that we may have frogspawn! We will also have caterpillars to look after in the classroom and watch as they begin their journey to become butterflies. It is also important for us to think about how we can help to look after our environment and the bugs and buds around us. Through this experience the children will be developing their key skills in Understanding the World and Communication and Language.



Easter

As mentioned above, the children will be looking for signs of new life during the season of Spring. This will then link into our Easter celebrations as we will about the new life that Jesus was given after he was resurrected and rose from the dead. The children will be exploring the Easter story, as well as thinking about the traditions at Easter time, for example giving Easter eggs and eating hot cross buns. They will say and write simple Easter prayers, thinking about saying thank you for new life. Through this experience, the children will develop their key skills in Understanding the World and their Personal, Social and Emotional development.

How you can help at home!

For the Spring term experiences, we have outlined below a number of activities and tasks that you might like to try at home with your child to develop their learning further; however, should your child have a particular idea or interest other than these we would be happy for them to complete an alternative task.

Once upon a time:

- You might like to visit your local library and read a traditional tale. Ask your child to talk about the main characters and see if they can use words to describe them, for example scary, tall or friendly.
- Ask your child to make up a different ending to a well know tale, such as Jack and the Beanstalk. What would they find at the top of the beanstalk in their story?

The circle of life:

- You could talk to your child about the changes that their daffodil makes as it starts to grow, thinking about they can help to look after it.
- Talk about how you and your child can help to look after the environment, for example taking litter home and walking on the paths rather than through flowerbeds.

Easter:

- When out and about, look for signs of new life with your child, for example looking for buds on the trees and lambs being born.
- If your child is feeling creative, they could design their own Easter egg, thinking about the patterns that they might like to add.

Thank you for your help at home, it really makes a difference. We are extremely grateful for all your support.